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THE IMMORTAL IRON FIST®

THE LAST IRON FIST STORY



A J A

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VARIANT
BY GABRIELE
DELL'OTTO



鐵拳 1

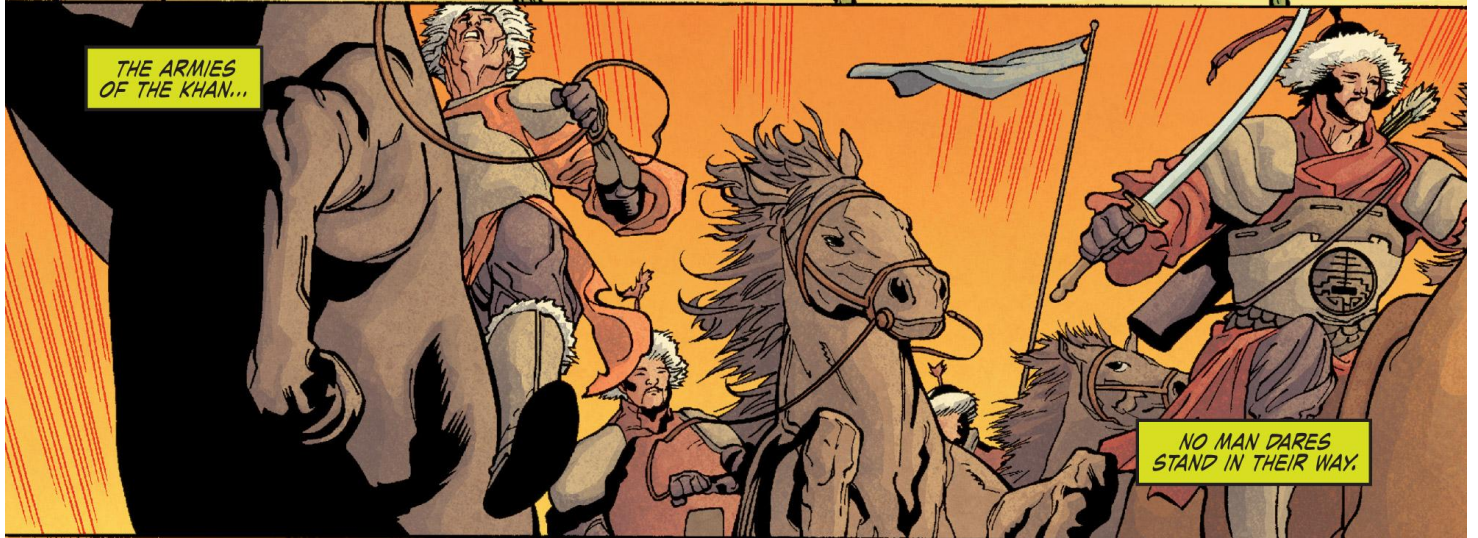


A V A

K'un-Lun Mountain Range.



THE VILLAGE IS
INSIGNIFICANT...
300 LIVES,
MORE OR LESS.



THE ARMIES
OF THE KHAN...

NO MAN DARES
STAND IN THEIR WAY.



(FATHER...
WHO--WHO IS
THAT?)



Who am I?



I am the
Iron Fist.

Bei Ming-Tian, Iron Fist c. 1227 A.D.



I stand before the
unstoppable hordes...

...and I hold
them back.

That's what I do.

What I've always done.



I am the Iron Fist.

I hold back the storm...

...when nothing else can.

THE LAST
IRON FIST STORY part 1

But it should've been **you**, Father. This was to be **your** legacy, not mine. But you returned to the world, instead... To build the empire I now run... ...and start a family. This was the world **you** chose and now... ...I'm what you **would** have been... ...if you hadn't been knocked from your path.



I can still feel the **frost** of that day, lost in the K'un-Lun Mountains...



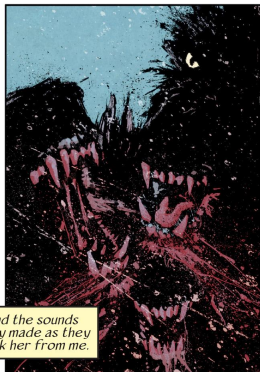
...can still hear Mother's screams as you **fall**...



...the howling of the **wolves** that pursued us...



...and the sounds they made as they took her from me.



She saved my life, even though she didn't believe your stories.

She thought you had gotten us **all** killed... But she was wrong.



The mystical City of K'un-Lun did exist high in those mountains...

...you had simply forgotten the path.



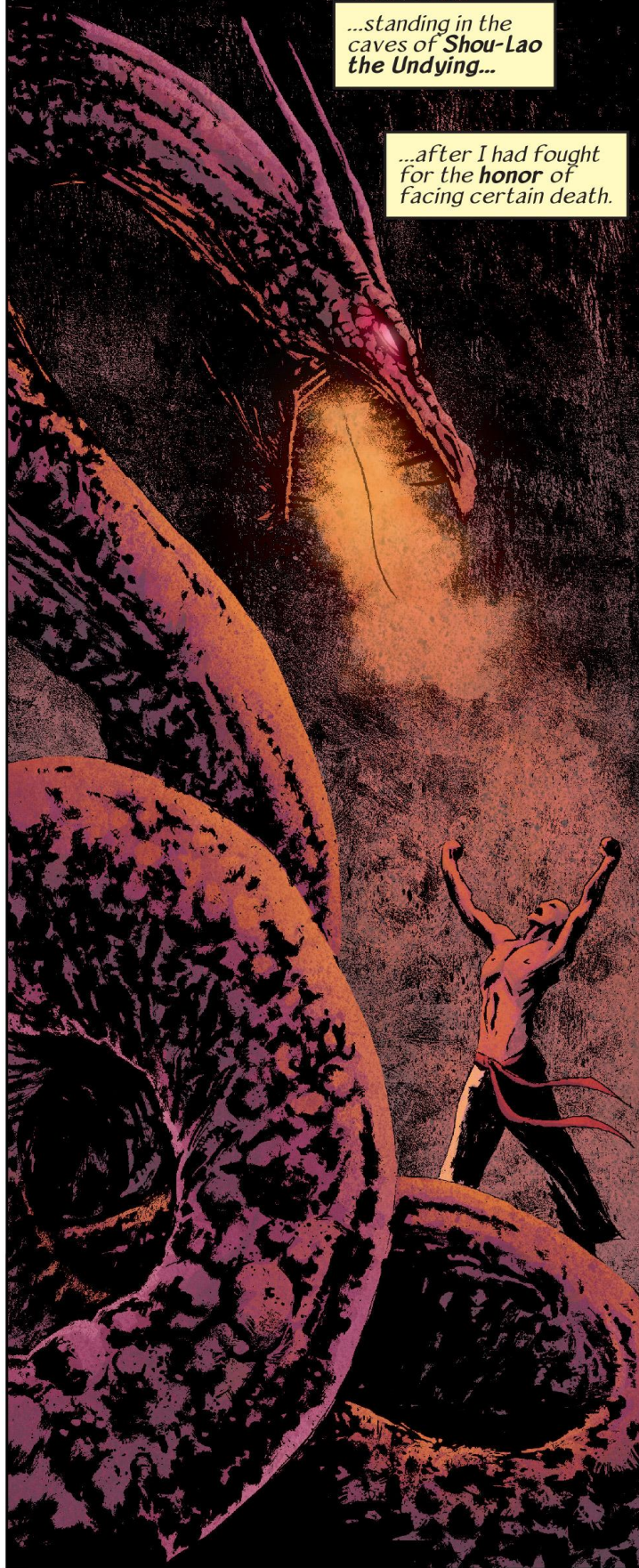
Daniel Rand. Iron Fist c. 2006 A.D.



For me, it seems almost a lifetime ago...

...standing in the
caves of **Shou-Lao**
the Undying...

...after I had fought
for the **honor** of
facing certain death.



I was the **champion** of K'un-Lun...



...and this was
my destiny...

...as it had been yours.



To **seize** the power
of the dragon...

...to plunge my
hands into his
molten heart...



...to change them
into things ...

...like unto *iron*.



THAT
ALL YOU GUYS
GOT?

I WAS
JUST GETTING
WARMED--



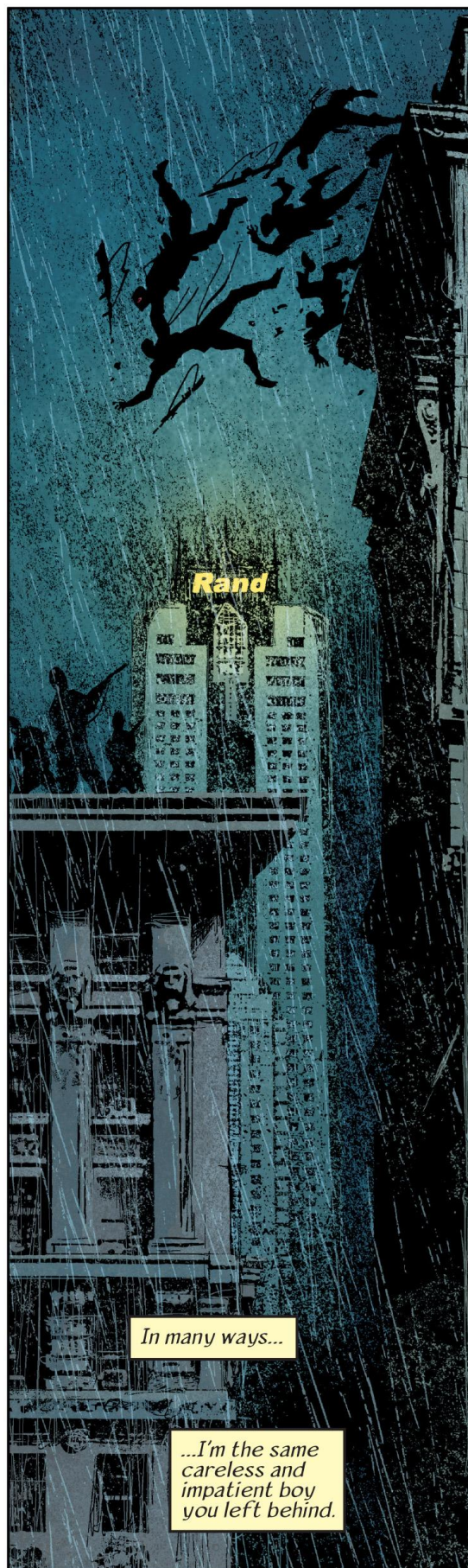
--UP?

Dammit--
behind me.

Careless.
Impatient.

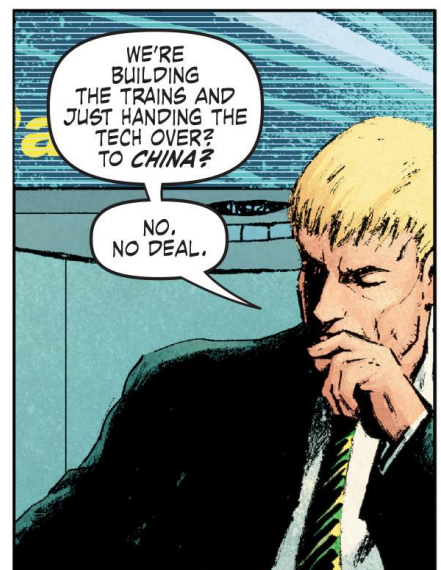
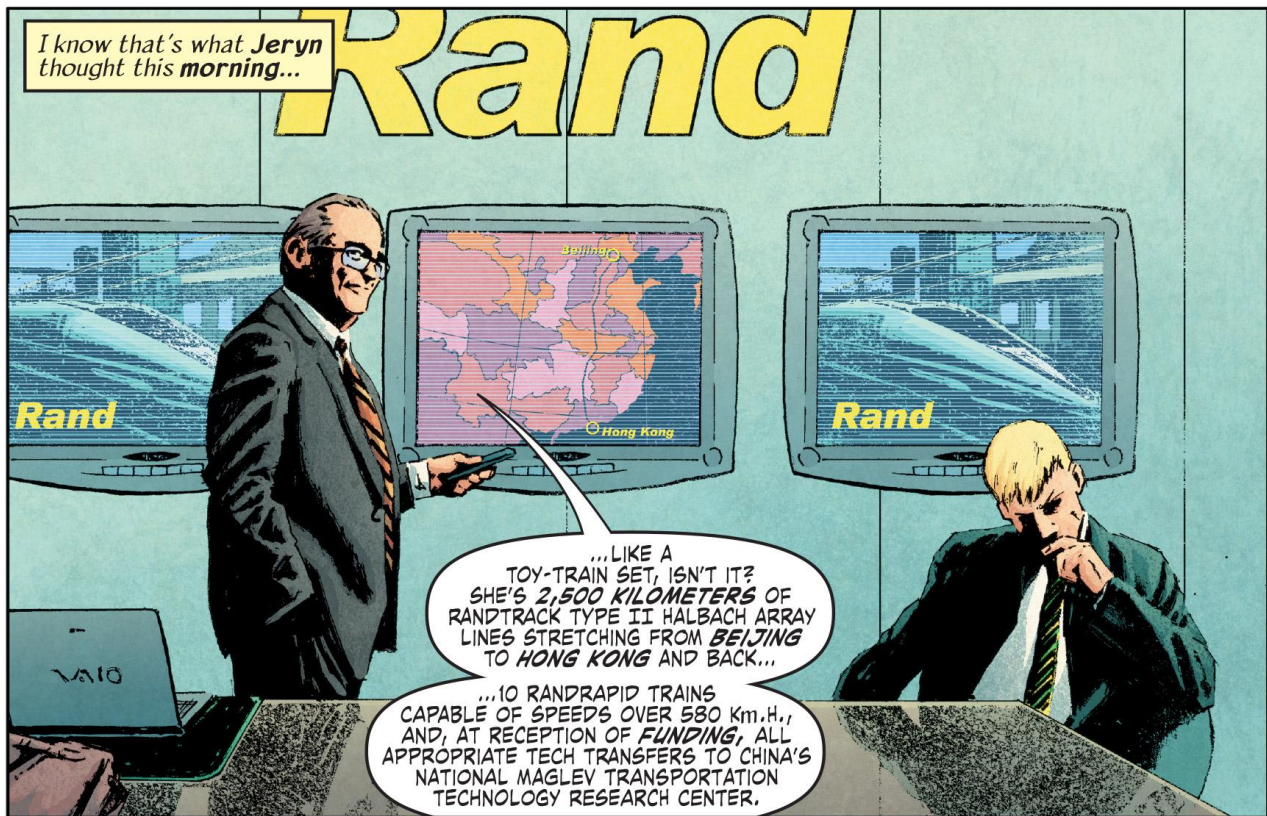


Rand

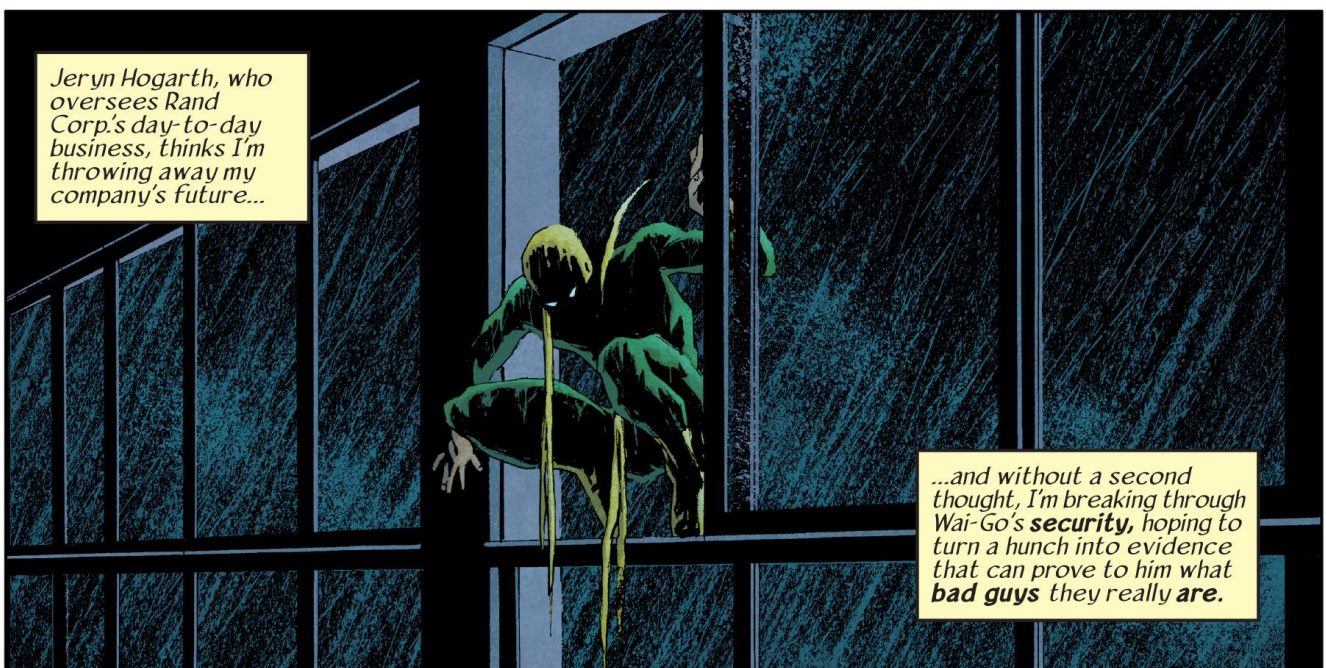


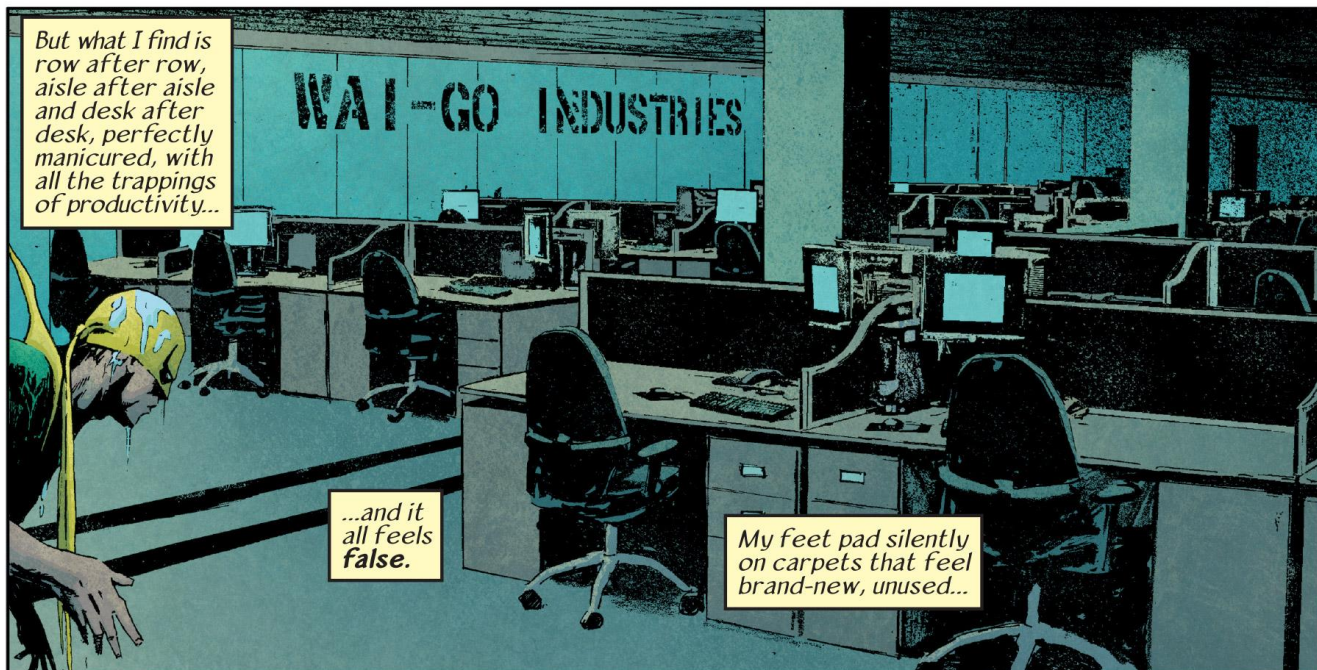
In many ways...

*...I'm the same
careless and
impatient boy
you left behind.*









But what I find is row after row, aisle after aisle and desk after desk, perfectly manicured, with all the trappings of productivity...

...and it all feels false.

My feet pad silently on carpets that feel brand-new, unused...



Somehow I just know that nobody's worked here in a long time...



Certainly not since that **logo** was painted on the wall.



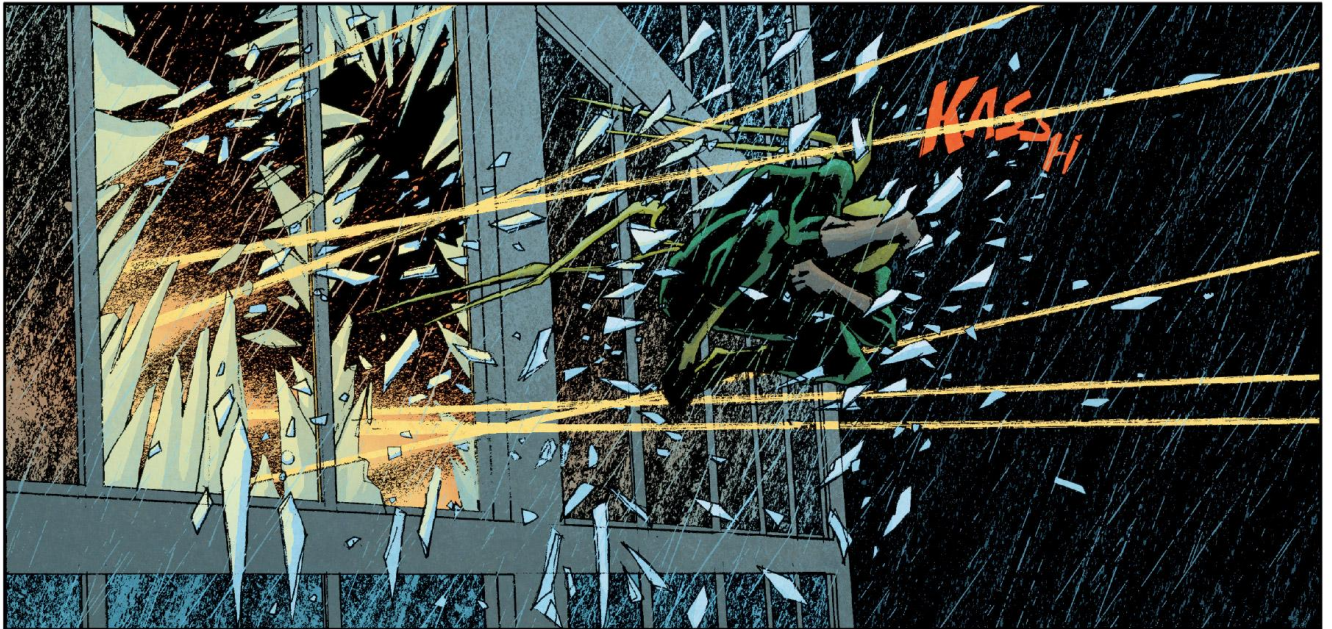
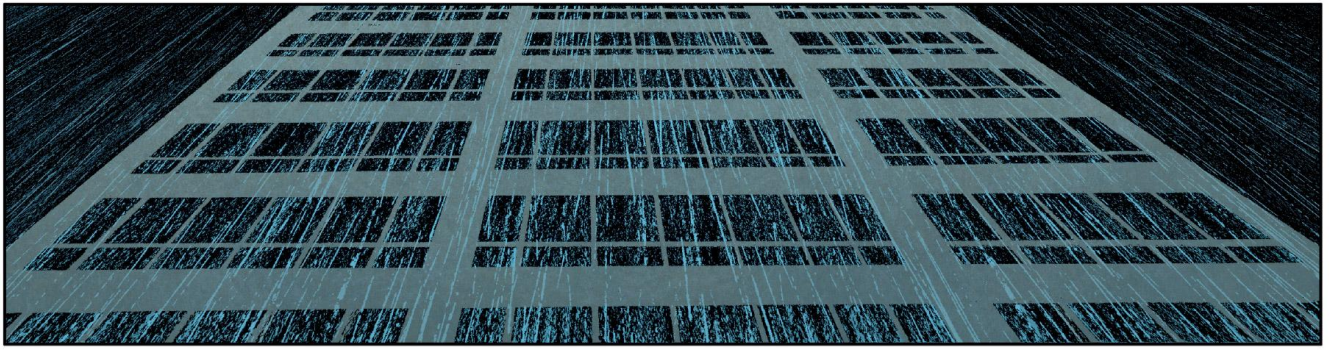
And just as I'm wondering what that means...



...the answer appears all around me.

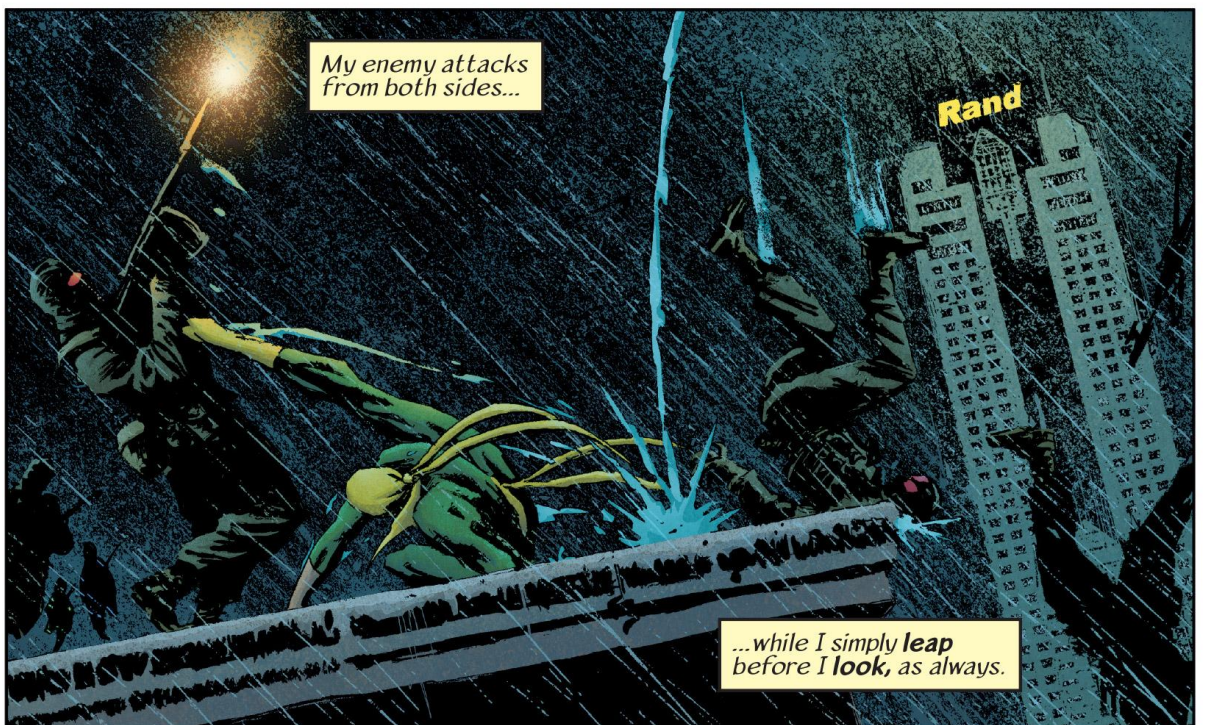
The hordes of **Hydra**.

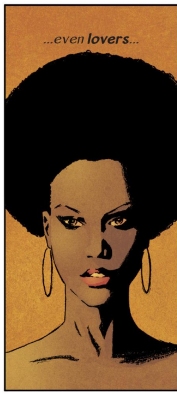
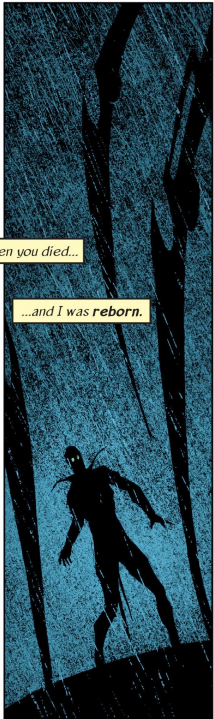
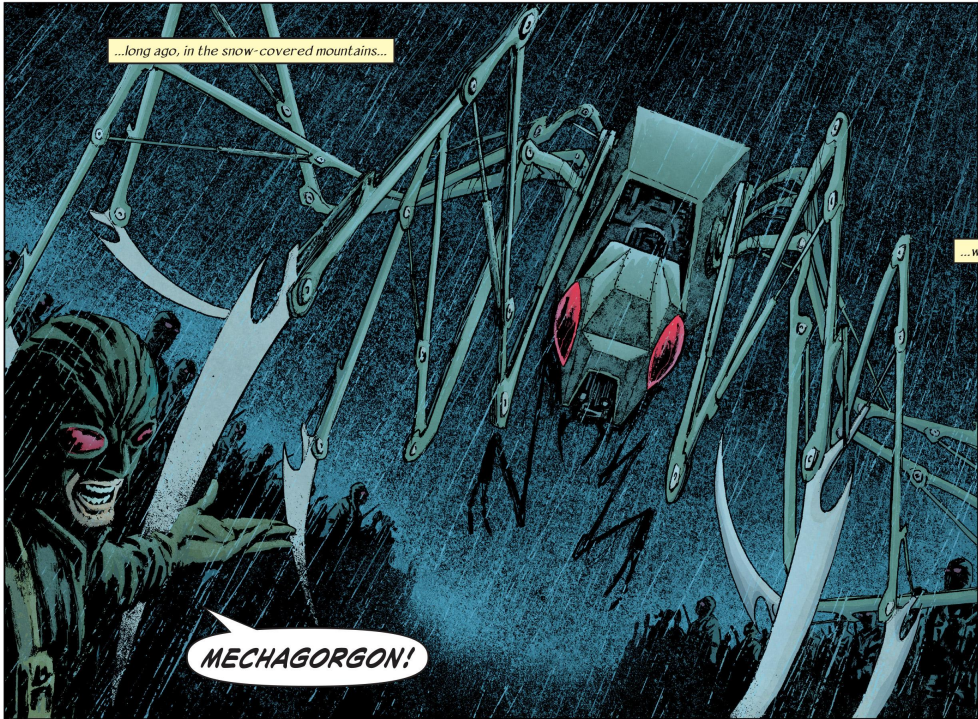
Didn't think of that.



...a **Hydra legion** chasing me across the rooftops of Manhattan...

...while a Hydra **front** corporation is making moves against Rand Corp.



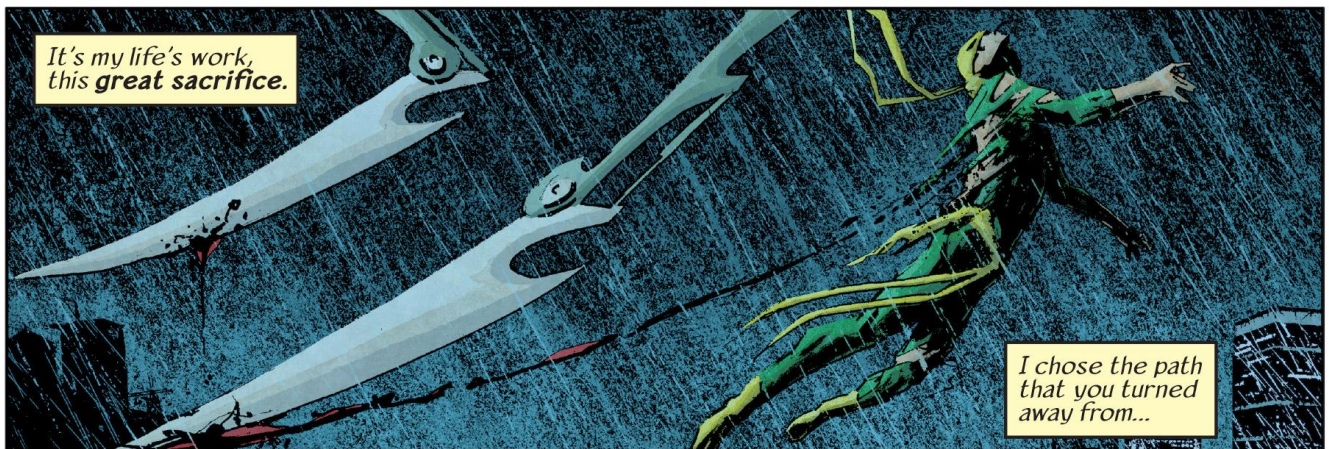




But they have a life
that I can never know...



...because this burden that should have
been yours, now rests solely on me.



It's my life's work,
this **great sacrifice**.

I chose the path
that you turned
away from...



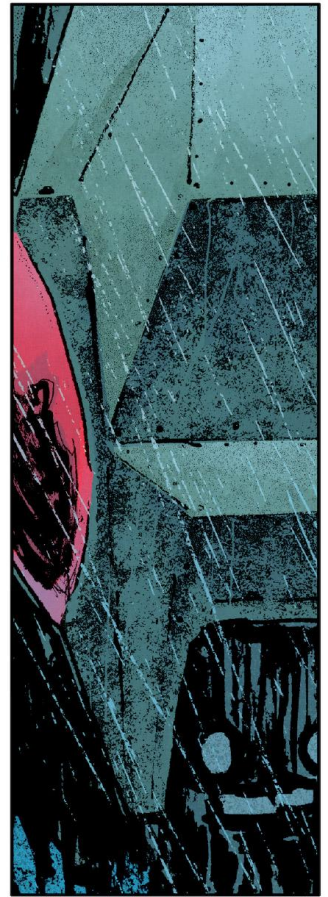
...and often I think I
understand why you did so.

*Because sometimes, Father...
as you know so well...*



...no matter how hard we try...

*...no matter how dutiful
we are to our sacrifice...*



...no matter how high we climb...



...we can fall.







...MY FATHER'S JOURNAL DIDN'T LIE.

YOU SHOULD PRAY IT DID NOT.

WE BROUGHT YOU BACK FOR A REASON, DAVOS...



...BUT WE WILL BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO TAKE YOU AWAY AGAIN.

JUST GIVE ME A LITTLE MORE TIME, DAMN YOU...



"...HE IS NEARLY IN MY GRASP."



MISTER?

MY SISTER AND I HAVE COME, AS DESIRED...

KNOCK KNOCK



HELLO? THEY TOLD US ROOM 12...

KNOCK KNOCK

WHAT THE HELL...?



I'M SORRY, GIRLS, YOU'VE REALLY GOT THE WRONG--





鐵拳2



Pinghai Bay.

(FASTER!)

(WE'VE RUN
THE MONGREL DOG
INTO THE BAY! FULL
SPEED AHEAD!)

(THERE'S
FIRE OFF HER MAIN-
SAIL AND SHE'S NOT
STOPPING!)

(WE'LL TEACH
THAT CUR WHAT
HAPPENS WHEN SHE
SAILS INTO OUR
WATERS...)

(NO ONE MAKES FOOLS
OF THE PINGHAI WOKOU
AS SHE HAS.)

(I WILL CUT
OUT HER TONGUE AND
LISTEN TO HER GURGLE
FOR MERCY.)



Sometimes
we're hunted...



And other times,
we hunt.

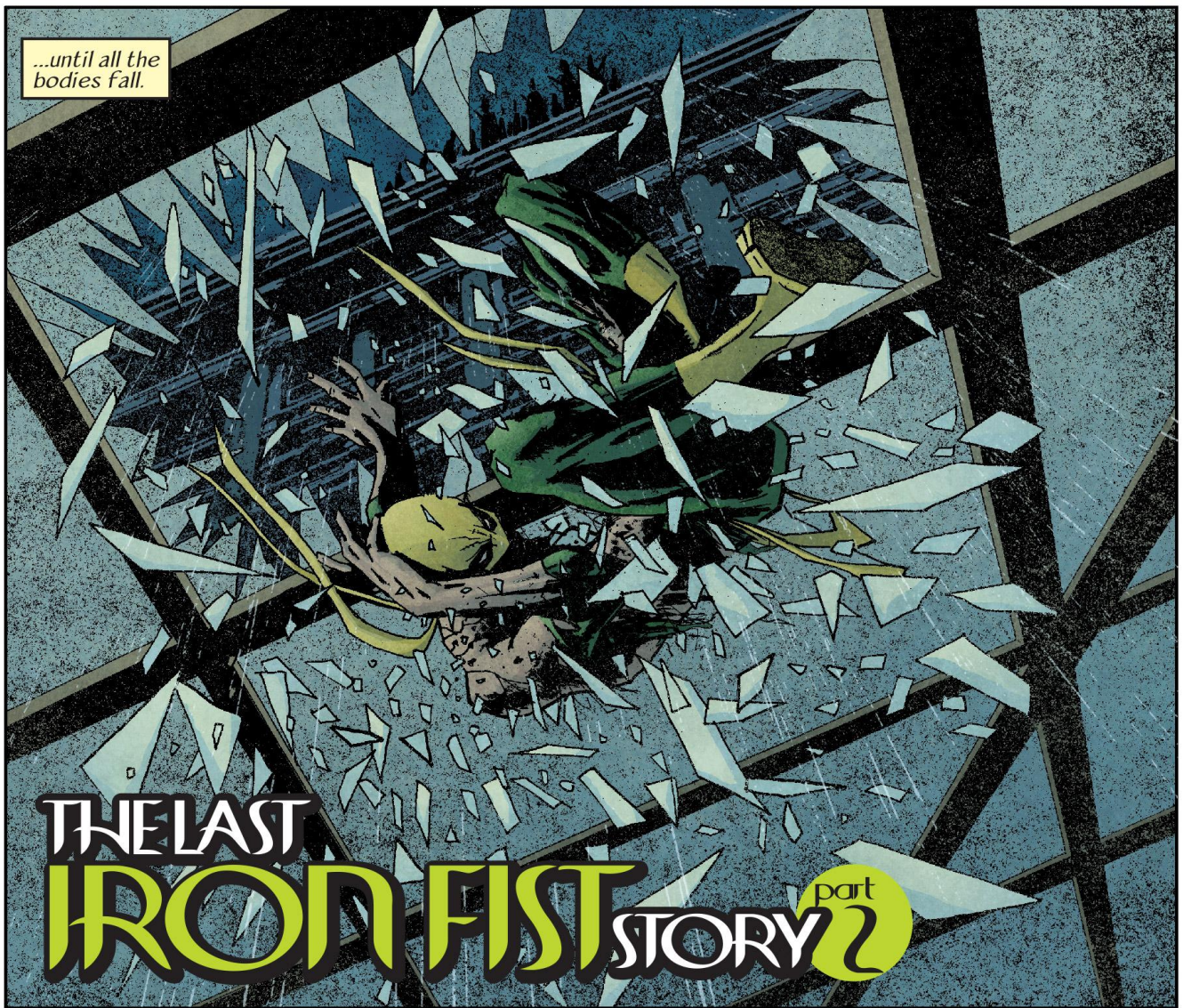


We are pursued...
or are in pursuit.



Sometimes you can't
tell the difference...







IS HE
DEAD?

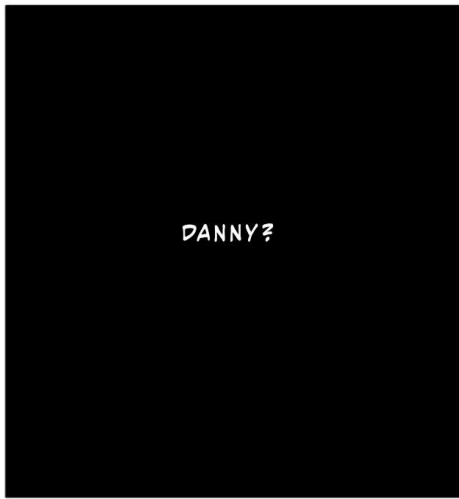
YOU
NEVER KNOW
WITH THAT
TYPE...

THE ALARM
IS BRINGING THE
AUTHORITIES. THEY'LL
TAKE CARE OF HIM...

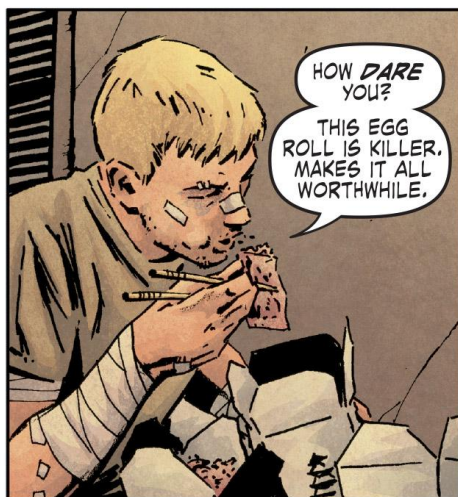
HE'S
UNREGISTERED,
AFTER ALL.

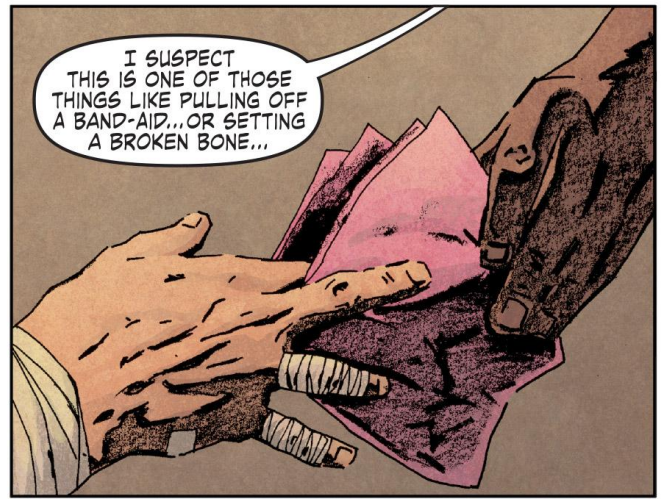
...LUKE,
IT'S DANNY...
I NEED...

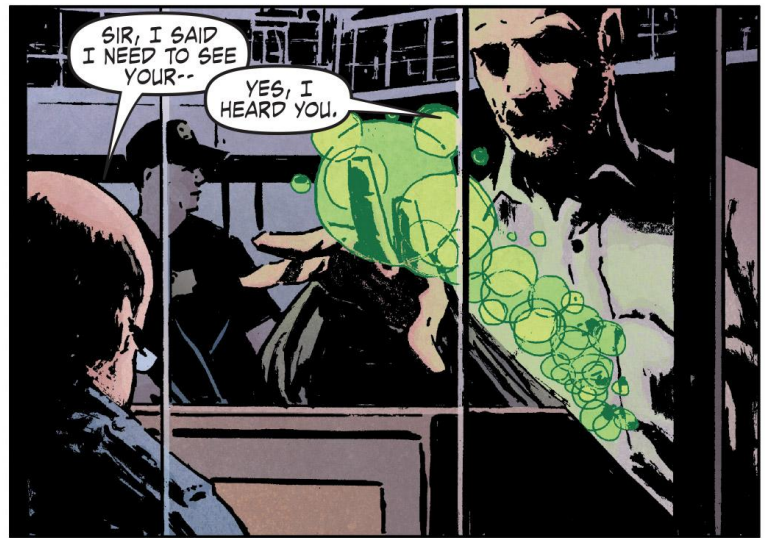
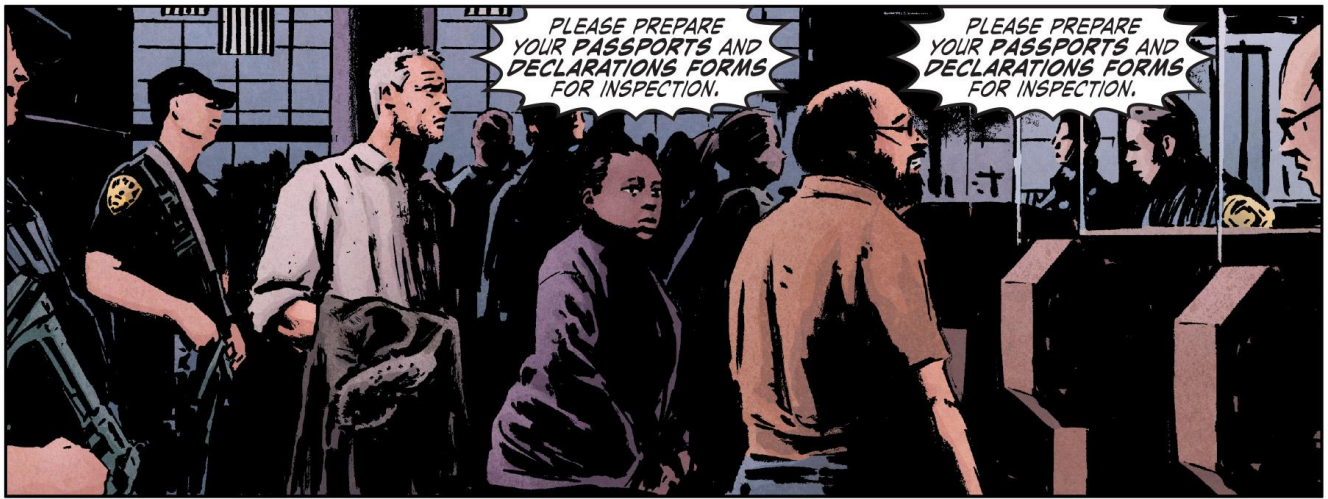
...HELP...



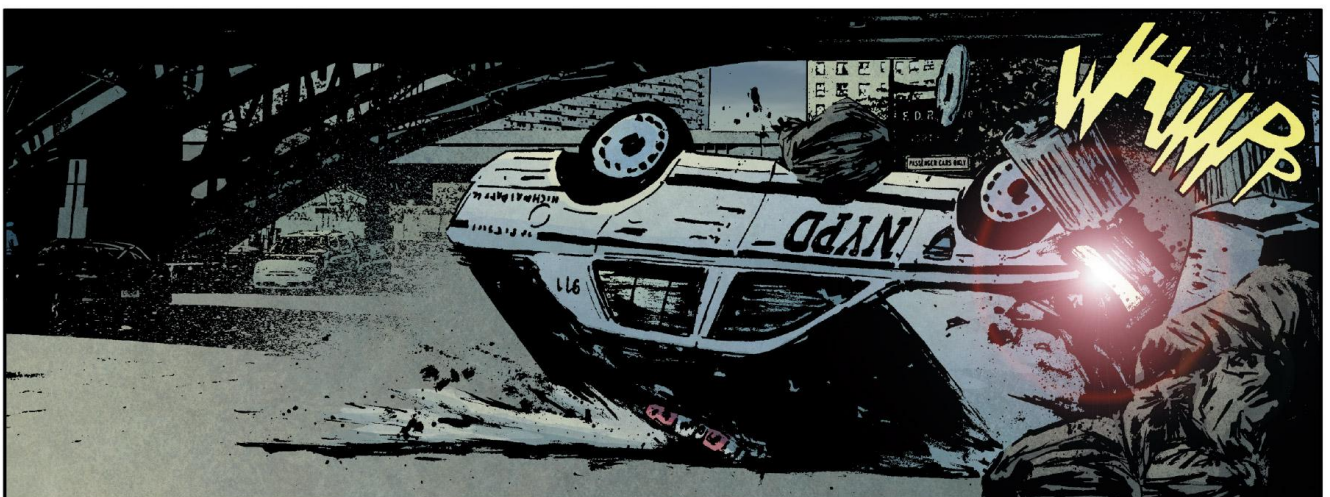














Never stop moving.



Remain in motion--
flowing, constant.

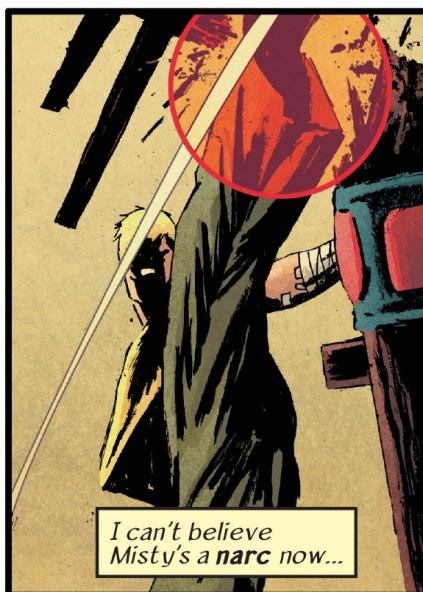


Think like fire.
Be like water.



Mixing masculine flame
and feminine fluidity...

Man.



I can't believe
Misty's a *narc* now...



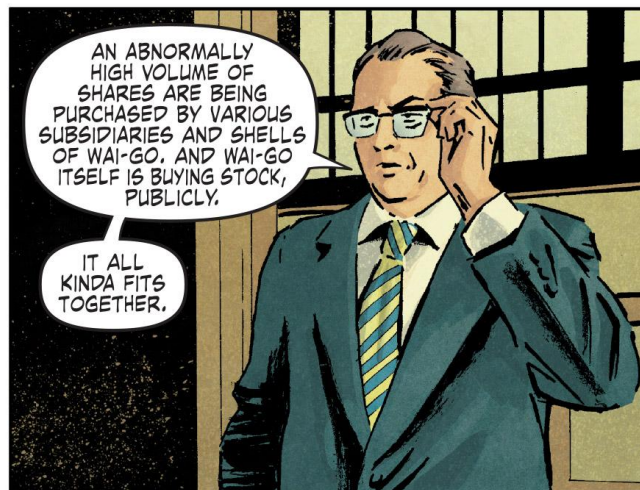
I should hit her with a
cease-and-desist for using
the *Heroes for Hire* name...



YOU KNOW HOW MUCH
EACH ONE OF THOSE
THINGS *COSTS* US?

HA HA. I'M
JUST KIDDING--
OF COURSE
YOU DON'T.







June 23rd, 1916 – Fort Souville, France.



⟨NO!⟩



⟨DAMMIT--
NO!⟩



⟨JACQUES!
CAN YOU HEAR
ME?!⟩

UNNH...
⟨OVER HERE,
RANDALL. I'M
NOT DEAD
YET...⟩

⟨THOUGH
THIS MASK
WAS NEARLY
USELESS.⟩

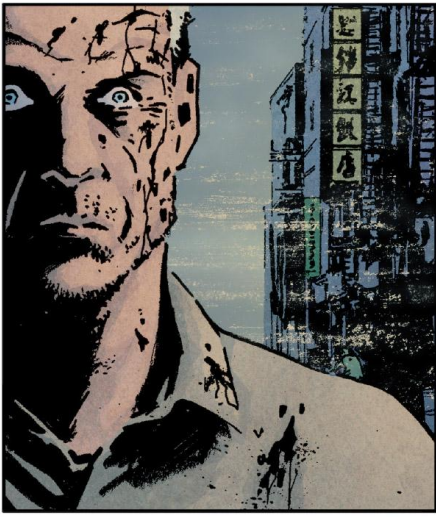


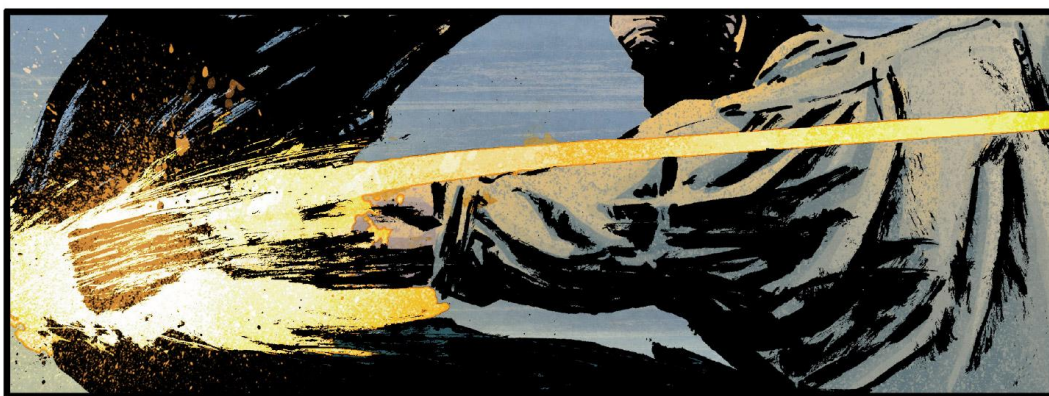
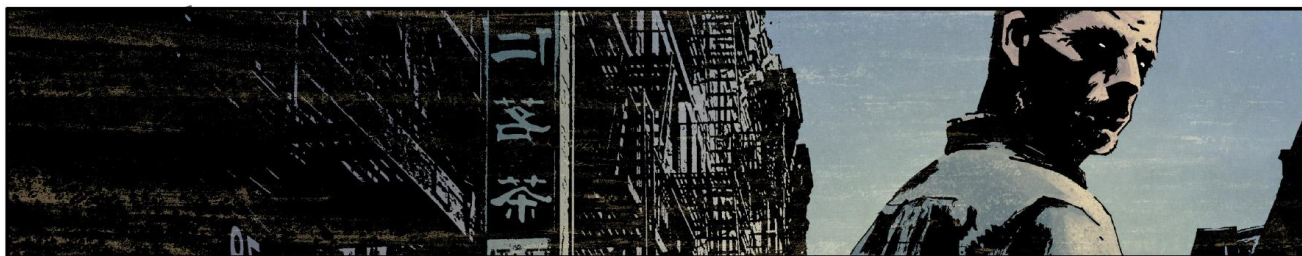
⟨THEY'RE ON THE
MOVE, **THOUSANDS**
OF THEM...WE NEED
TO REGROUP AT
THE FORT.⟩

⟨LET THEM
COME. BASTARD
GERMANS AND
THEIR GAS...⟩









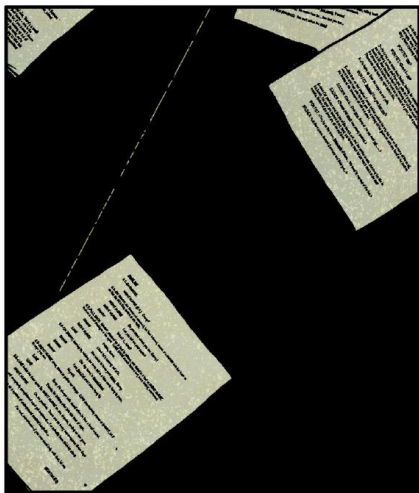
The sound of the assassin's heart bursting in his chest brings me back...

...out of the tidal wave of blood that is my past...



...and into the moment where there is nothing but the blood and me...

The immortal Iron Fist.



鐵拳3



AJA
matt

Taku Forts, Hai River, China.

(MASTER.)
(THE BRITISH
APPROACH.)

(EXCELLENT.)

(AT THE RISK OF INSULTING YOUR
INTELLIGENCE, MY MOST LOYAL AND
FEROCIOUS BROTHERS, ALLOW ME
TO REPEAT OUR MOST
HOLY PLAN...)

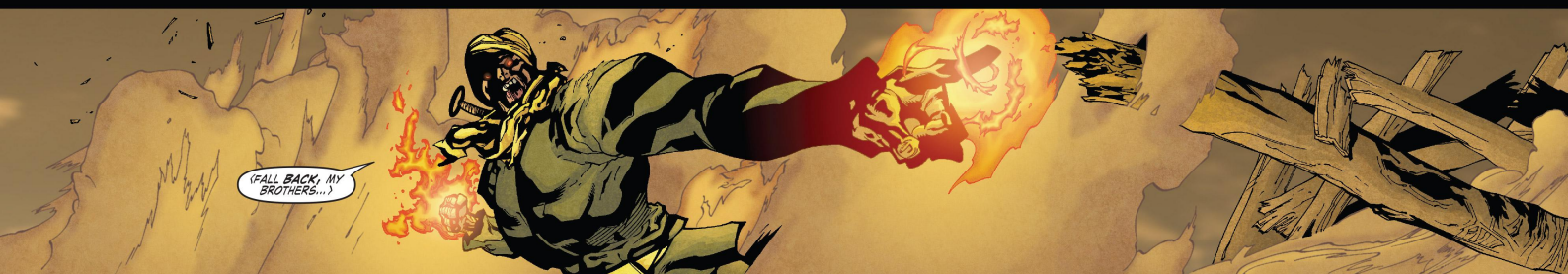
(ON MY ORDER,
FIRE. THEN FALL
BACK TO SECONDARY
POSITIONS.)

(I WILL BUY
YOU AS MUCH TIME AS
POSSIBLE. AND ASSUMING OUR
PREPARATIONS WERE DONE WELL
AND PROPERLY...)

Bei Bang-Wen. Iron Fist, c. 1860.

(... THEN ATTACKING THE TAKU
FORTS WILL BE THE STUPIDEST
THING OUR ENEMIES WILL EVER
DARE ATTEMPT...)

(... AND
MANY OF
THEM WILL DIE
TRYING.)

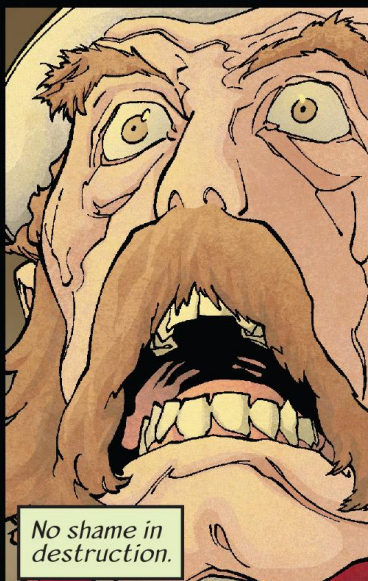




AND I'LL
SEE YOU ALL IN
HELL.

There is no
shame in this.

There is no
shame in terror.



No shame in
destruction.



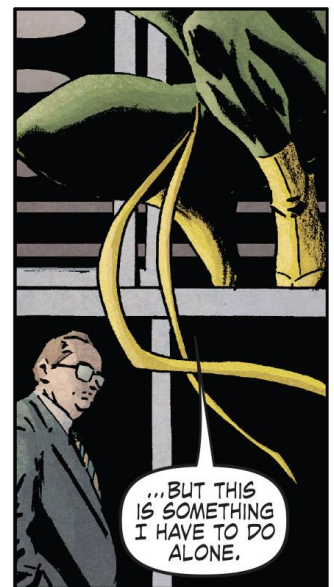
There is no shame in death...

...only in a life lived
in fear of death.



And I ask you...

Do I look like a man
afraid of dying?





The power of Shou-Lao the Undying, which burns inside me...

...is meant to be mine alone.



It has been **stolen** from me before, but what I felt last night was different.

This was more like a **shock wave** tearing through the city...



...but the only one who could **feel** it was me.

And it brought me to my knees.



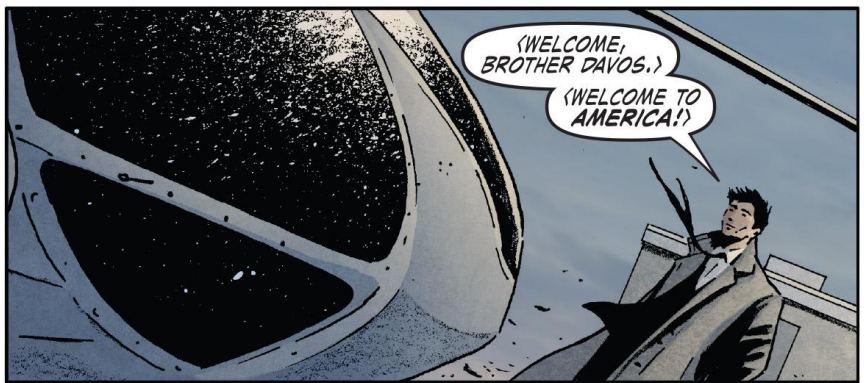
Somehow, someone touched my Chi... and I could feel **theirs**, too...

...vibrating through me.

So I concentrate, and focus my energy on following those ripples and vibrations.



Someone is using the power of the dragon, and I need to find out who.







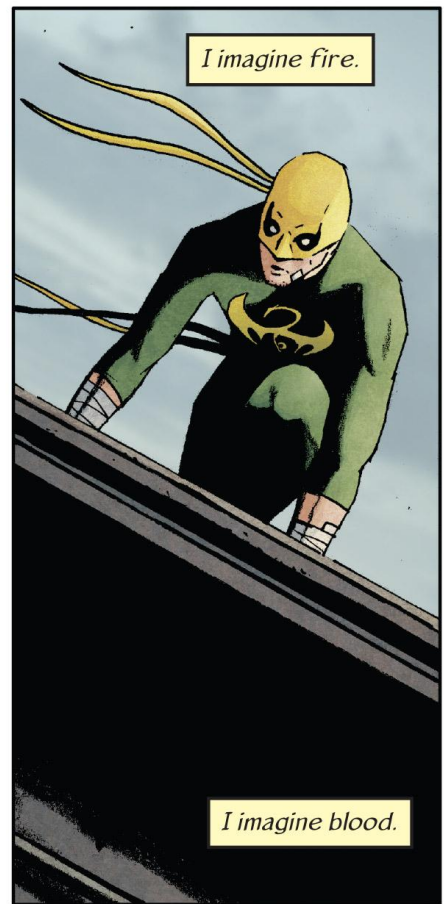
One day, this mantle bestowed upon me... the **Iron Fist**... one day it will kill me. I know this.

And I hope it's a glorious, heroic death.



I hope I die in a way that honors my gifts.

I hope I **embrace** my death when it comes.



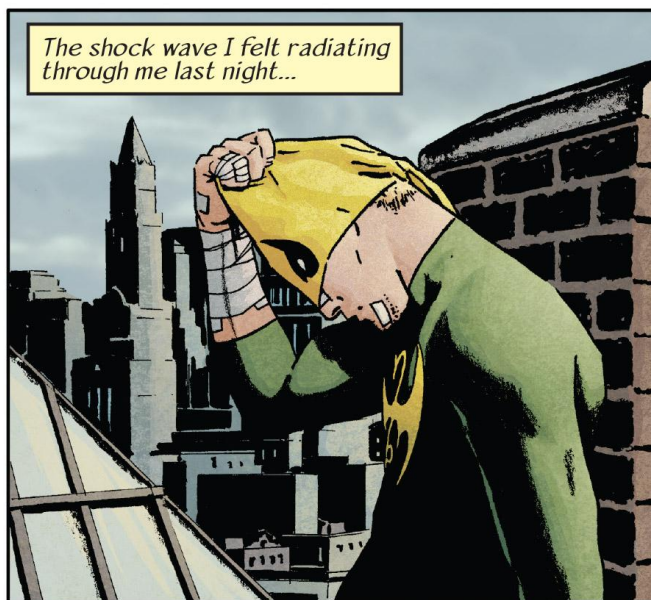
I imagine fire.

I imagine blood.



I imagine it will look...

...something just like **this**.



The shock wave I felt radiating through me last night...



...originated here.



I swear on everything I am...

...I will find whoever the hell did this...

...and stop them with my bare hands.



Cameras.

They've got cameras everywhere these days. You want to get found? Go inside somewhere.



I've been in these rags too long. Have to trade up...

...Have to go see a man today.

Have to look important.



PARDON ME, SIR--
YOU--
YOU'RE A, WHAT,
44? BROAD IN THE
SHOULDERS?

EXCUSE ME?



I WANT TO BUY YOUR SUIT.

I CAN PAY WHATEVER YOU WANT.

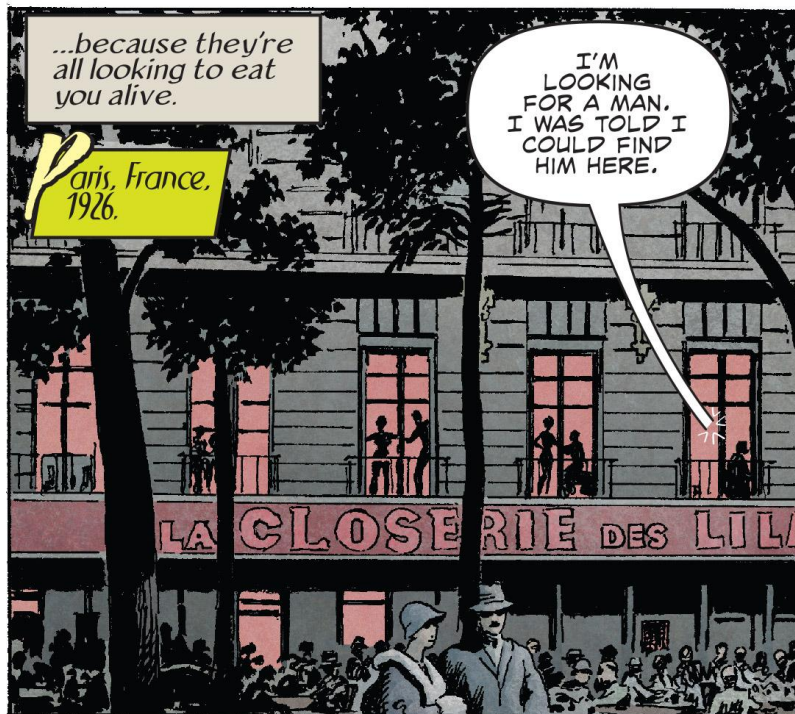


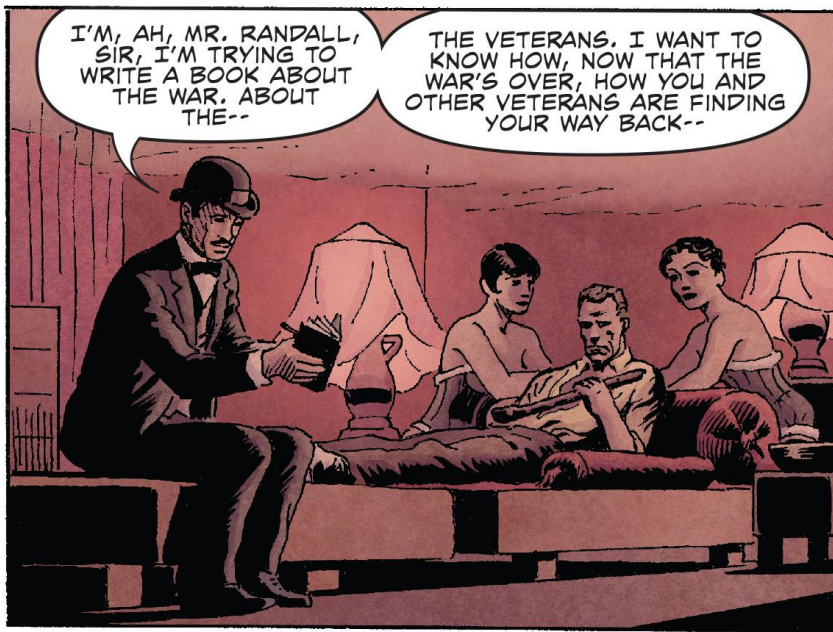
...
GO AWAY, CRAZY HOBO.



I SAID
I WANT TO
BUY YOUR DAMN
SUIT!!

Stay on the street. Stay outside. These days you can't trust anybody...





I'M, AH, MR. RANDALL, SIR, I'M TRYING TO WRITE A BOOK ABOUT THE WAR. ABOUT THE--

THE VETERANS. I WANT TO KNOW HOW, NOW THAT THE WAR'S OVER, HOW YOU AND OTHER VETERANS ARE FINDING YOUR WAY BACK--



SURVIVORS.

NOT VETERANS. **SURVIVORS.**



GIMME THAT.

HEY--

SHUT UP.



I'VE STOOD ANKLE-DEEP IN BLOOD AND MUD AND-- AND MEAT THAT USED TO BE MEN I **KNEW.**

YOU CAN'T KNOW ABOUT WAR UNTIL YOU'VE SURVIVED IT.

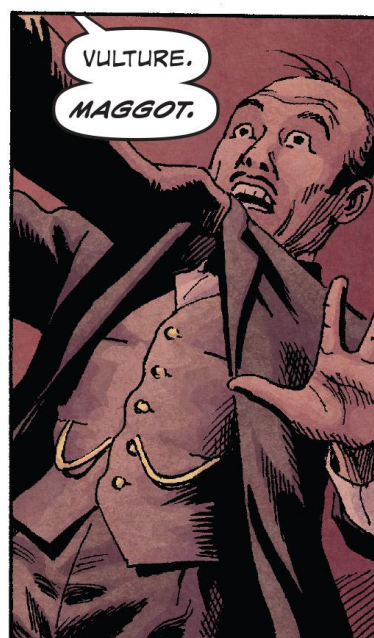


I'VE BEEN THE **LAST MAN ALIVE** ON A BATTLEFIELD FULL OF CORPSES.

AND YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW I **FOUND MY WAY BACK** FROM THAT?



GGNNA



VULTURE.

MAGGOT.



I DON'T CARE HOW MUCH YOU PAID FOR THIS ADDRESS.

YOU WON'T **FEED** ON ME TODAY.



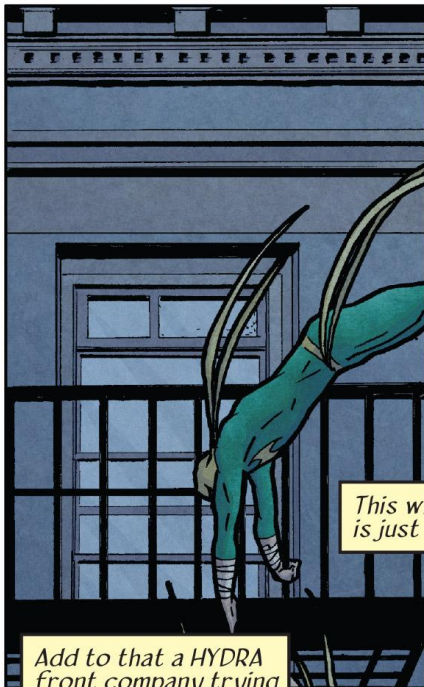
S.H.I.E.L.D. agents
scour the skies,
hunting **the good**
as well as **the bad**.



On top of everything else, my
own **government** has forced
me to work from the shadows...



Even my own girlf-

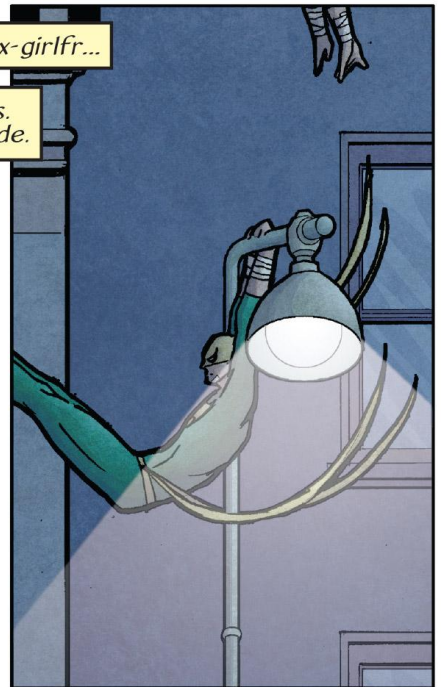


This whole thing
is just ridiculous.



My ex-girlfr...

My **whatever** Misty is.
Even **she's** on their side.



Add to that a HYDRA
front company trying
to gobble Rand up
one piece at a time...

...to say nothing of
whoever is tapping
into the power of
Shou-Lao...



...and it looks like my
entire life is under siege.



Feels like it, anyway.



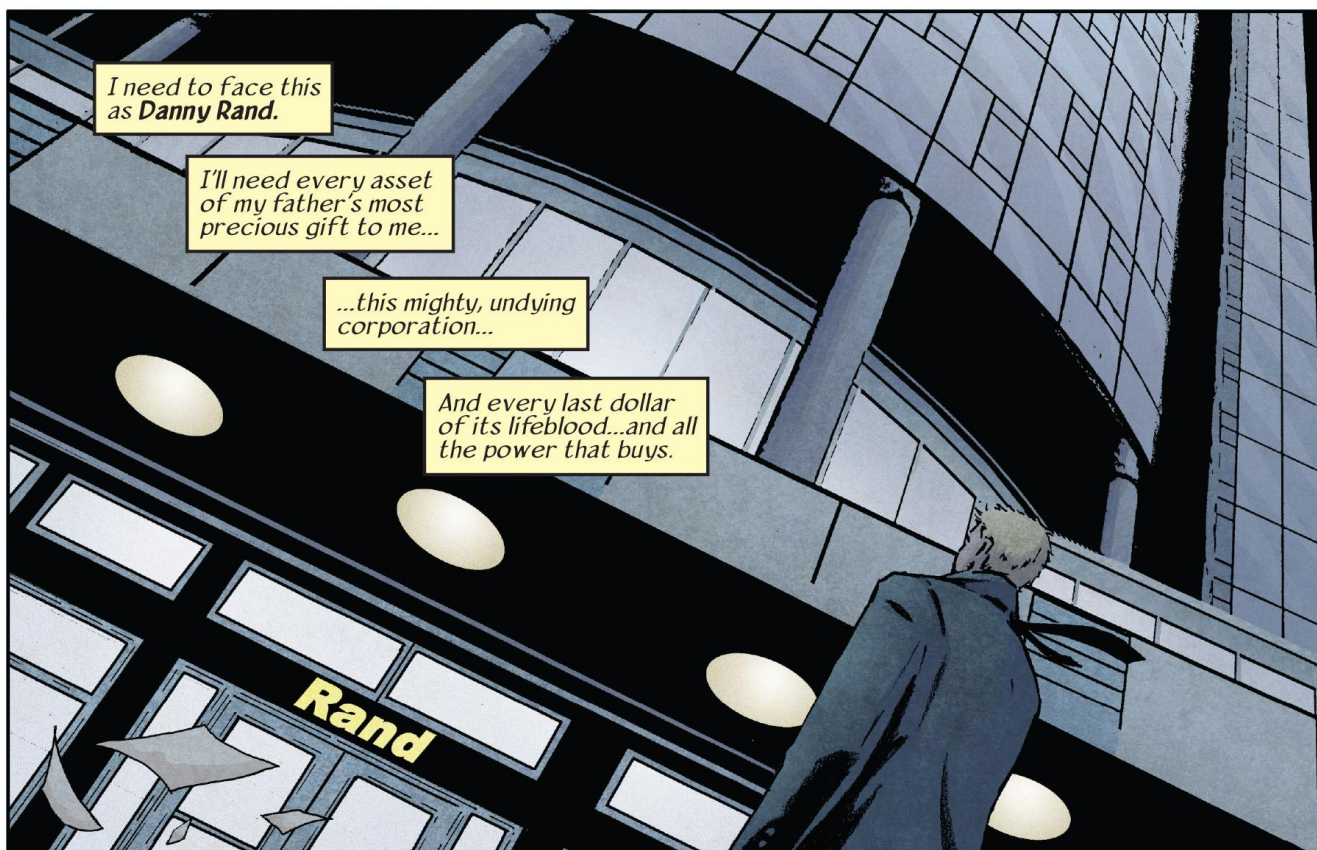
I need to get Jerryn in on this. He needs to know the scale of what we're dealing with...

...because I can't do this on my own.



I can't even do this as **Iron Fist**...

And since I can't go to S.H.I.E.L.D. or Stark or anybody else...



I need to face this as **Danny Rand**.

I'll need every asset of my father's most precious gift to me...

...this mighty, undying corporation...

And every last dollar of its lifeblood...and all the power that buys.



You want a war, Hydra?

Fine. You've got it.



YOU ARE
A SOLDIER...
FIGHTING IN *MY* WAR...
ARE YOU NOT?

YES,
MASTER.

THEN TELL
ME, SOLDIER...
ARE YOU *AFRAID*...
TO *DIE* FOR ME?



N...NO...
MAG...
MASTER.



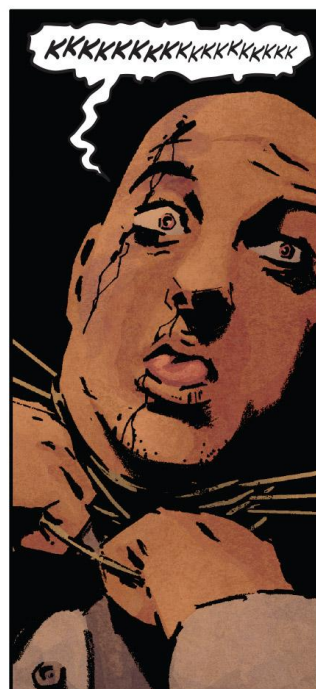
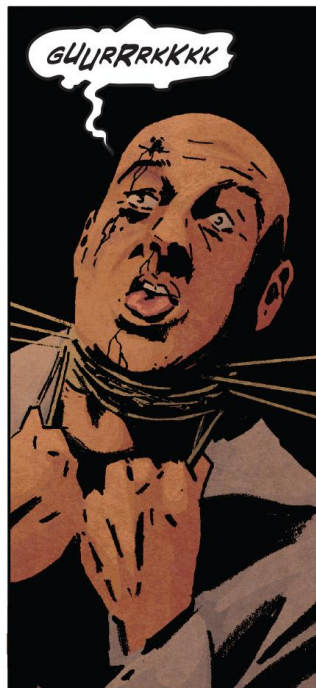
YOUR BROTHERS
DIED FOR ME. YOUR
BROTHERS DIED WITHOUT
SHAME AND WITHOUT
HESITATION.

AND WHILE...
YOUR BROTHERS
FAILED...THEY
FAILED WITH
HONOR.



YOU...

YOU DIDN'T
EVEN MAKE IT
OUT OF THE *CAR*.
YOU NEVER EVEN
FOUGHT.







"...THE MEN
KNOWN AS
IRON FIST!"

HELLO?

WHO'S HERE?



HELLO,
DANIEL, MY NAME IS
ORSON RANDALL.
YOU AND I
HAVE SOMETHING
IN COMMON...



It's him.

He's the one *using*
the Iron Fist...and
somehow he got
into my office...

...BUT I
ALSO KNEW
YOUR--



It's not clean. And
it's not graceful.

But I hit him with
everything I'm worth.

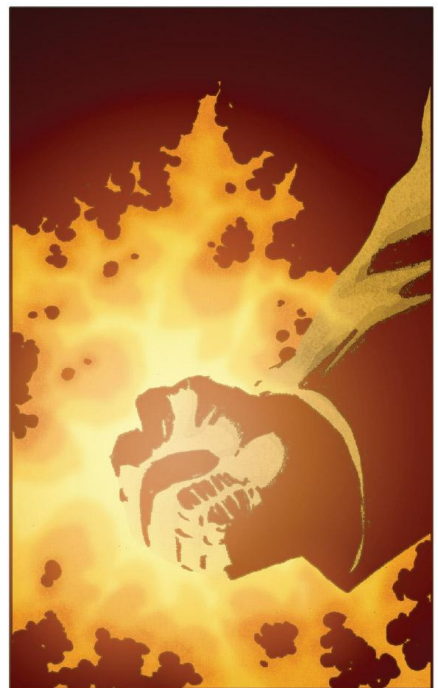
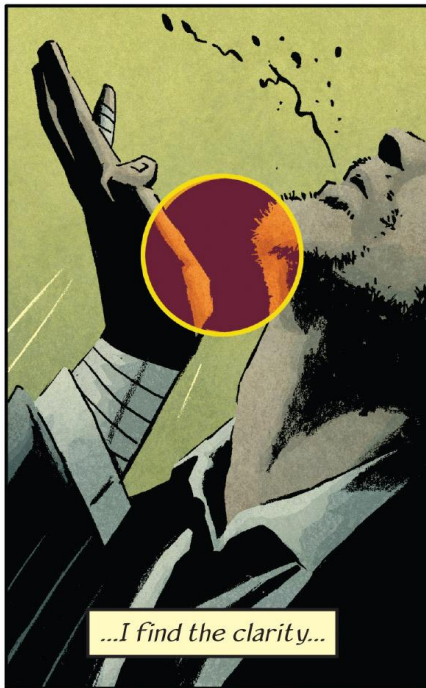


And I'm worth quite a bit...



C'MON, OLD
MAN. I'M NOT GOING
DOWN WITHOUT A
FIGHT.





DANIEL.

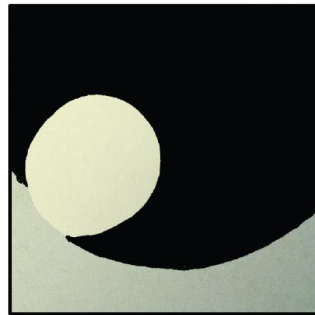


ENOUGH.



YOU DON'T
JUST **LOOK** LIKE
YOUR FATHER...

...YOU'RE AS
PIGHEADED AS HE
WAS, TOO.



YOU--



YOU KNEW
MY FATHER?



KNEW HIM?
I **TAUGHT HIM** TO
THROW HIS FIRST
KICK.

HELL...
I TAUGHT
HIM PRACTICALLY
EVERYTHING
HE KNEW...



鐵拳
4



>
<
>

It was a million-to-one shot.

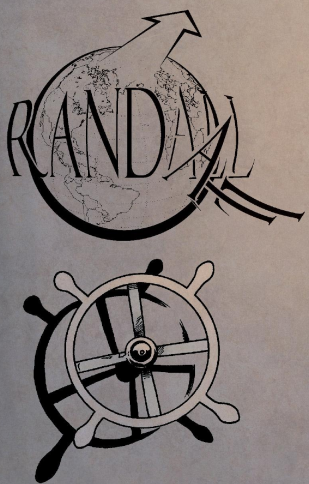


Of all the cities in all the countries in all the world, my old man had to crash his transglobal airship into the heart of K'un-Lun... the one day in ten years it was on this plane of existence.

But Dad always was...*gifted*.

It's a miracle nobody died that day.

Either in the air...



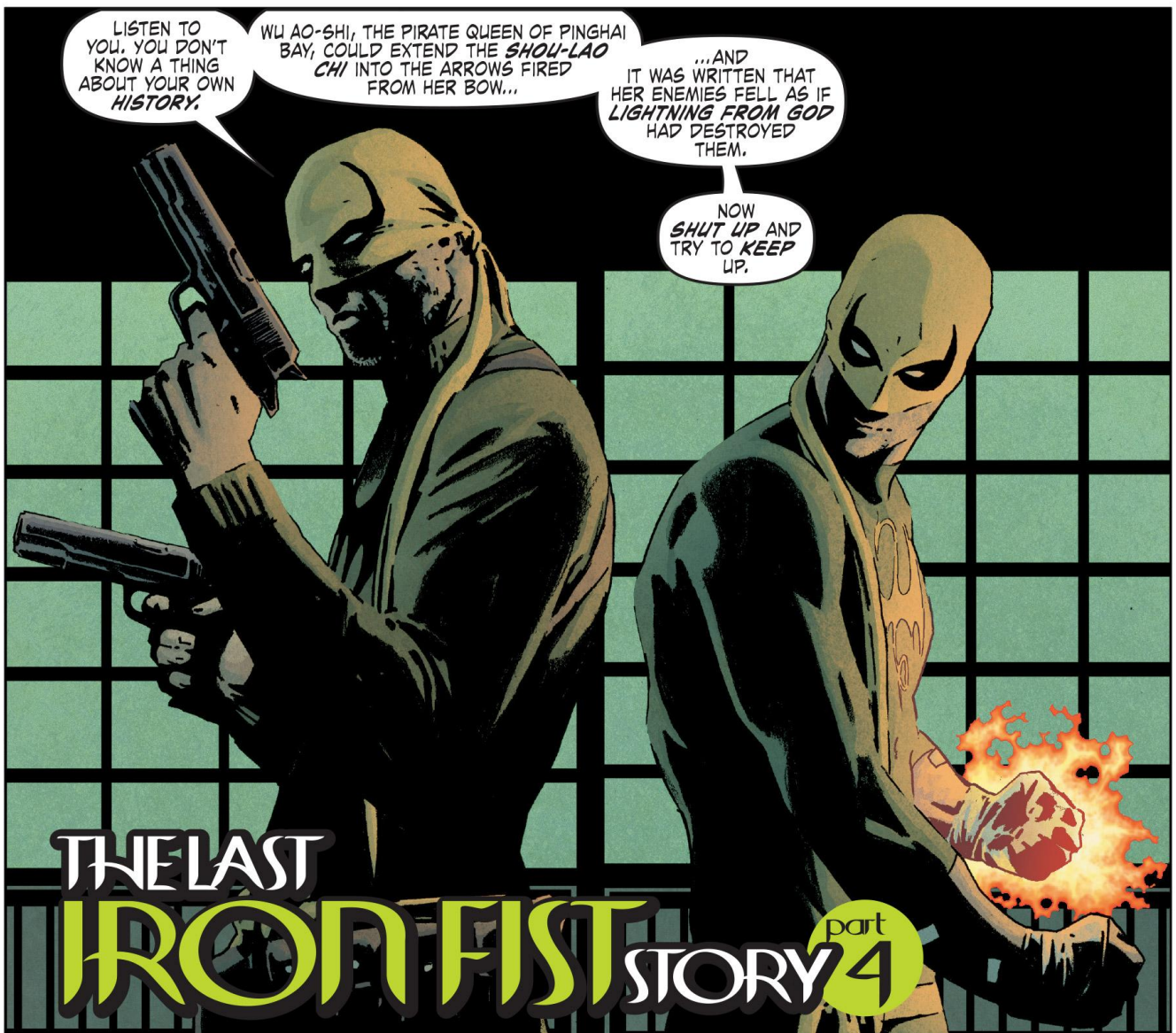
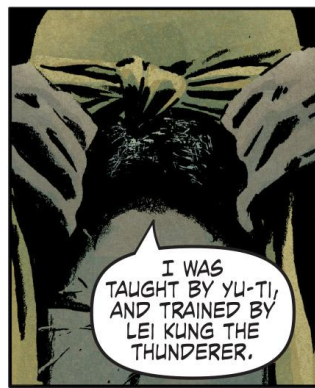
KFWHAM!

HEAR ME WELL, CELESTIALS--MY WIFE IS EIGHT MONTHS PREGNANT...

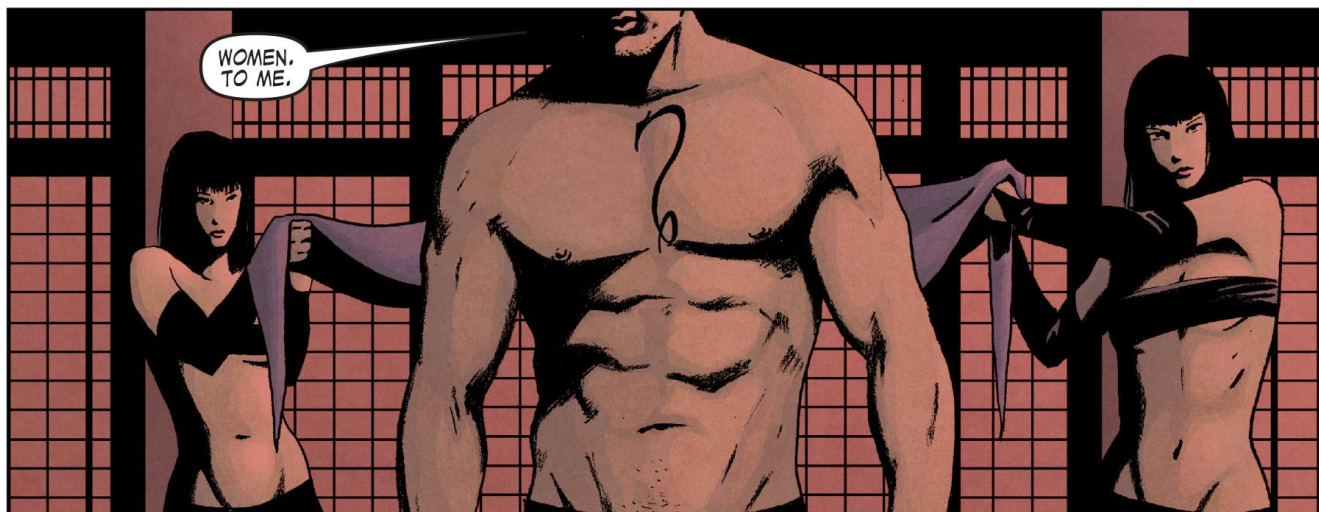
...SHE NEEDS IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION, OR BY GOD, ALL OF YOU WILL...

...or on the ground.

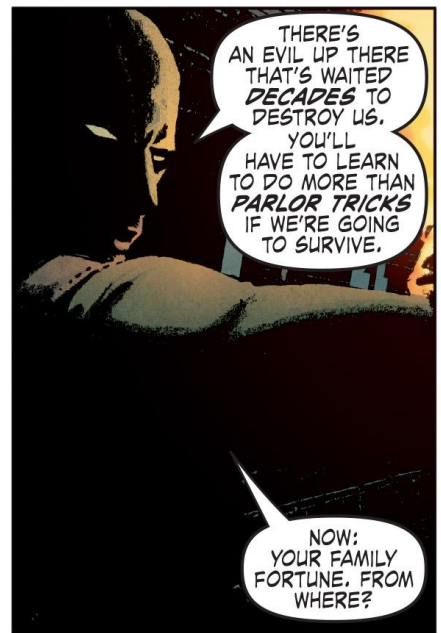
And that's how the Randall family came to K'un-Lun.











On my sixteenth birthday, I faced the **Serpent King**.

And a year later I fought Shou-Lao the Undying... without fear, as I had been **raised** to believe I was **born** to defeat him.

It wasn't until I touched the beast's still-beating heart...

...and felt its **chi** flowing into me...

...that I realized that being the **Iron Fist** was more than simply a title.

Every soul in K'un-Lun came to see the **outworlder** who became a native, and the native who became their champion.

And as I stood before them, I knew that being their champion would bring only **death**.



That would be
my legacy.

For I was a
living weapon.



And I would
know **deaths**...



...by the score.



Later, when they
summoned me **home**,
I returned, but...

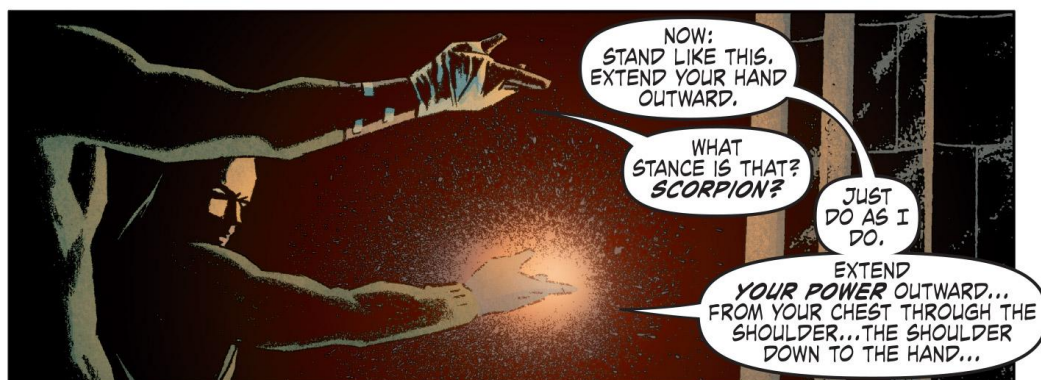
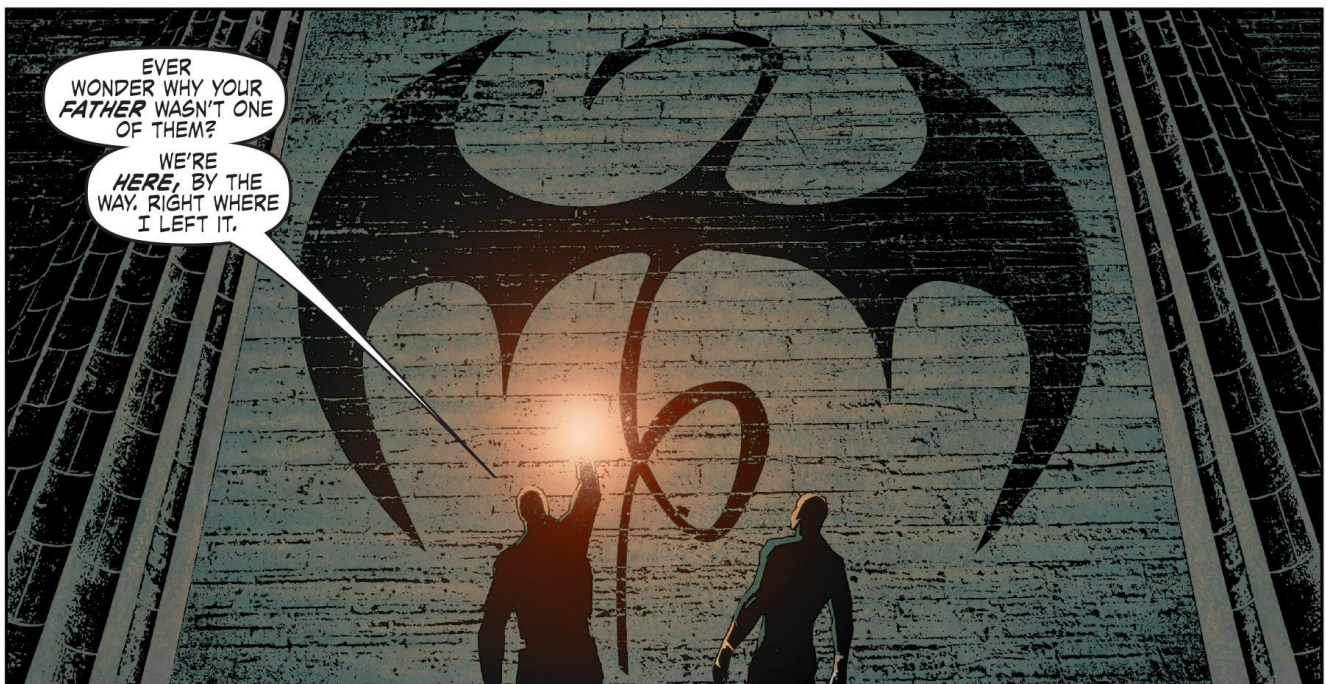
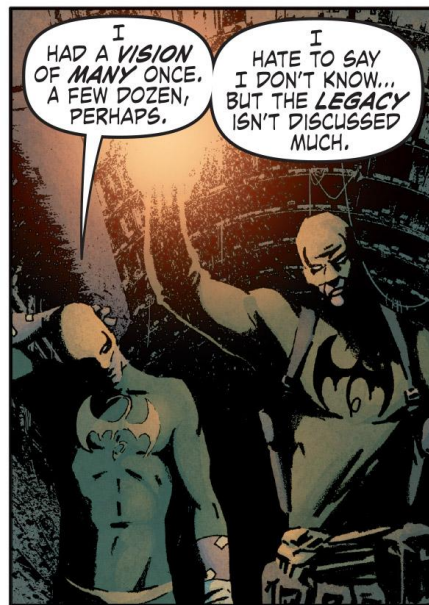
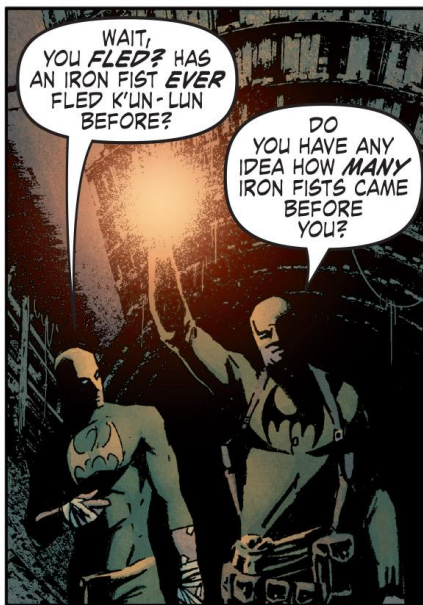


...I was more of an
outworlder than ever.

My adopted home,
my adopted family...



...didn't
understand what
I had become
until I **fled**...





My father is *Lei Kung the Thunderer*.



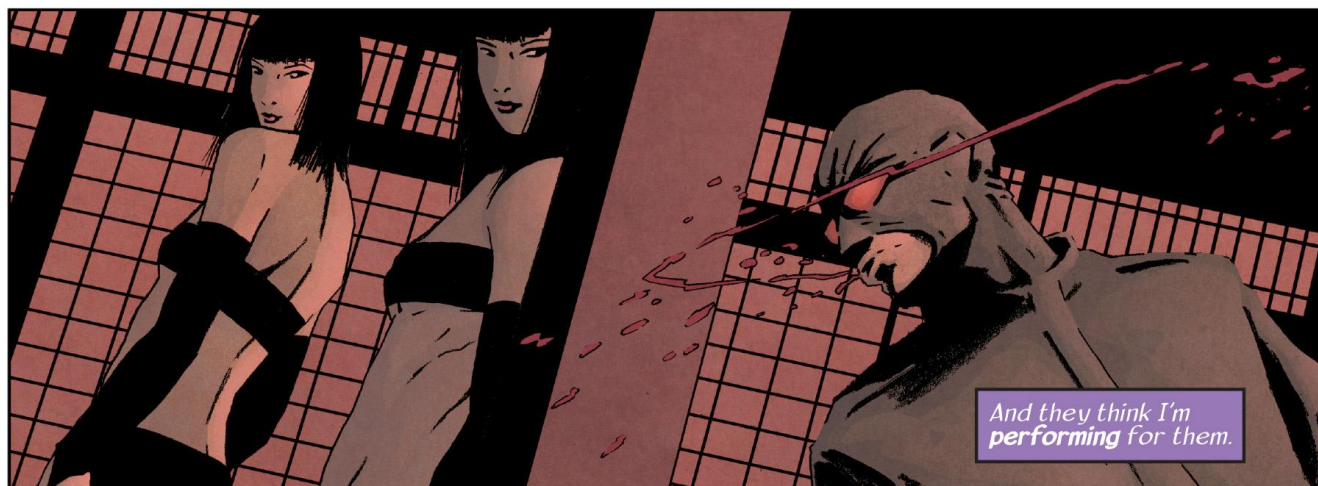
And I have faced greater odds than *this* as a mere *child*.



I am a *champion*.

CHUD

FWAK



And they think I'm *performing* for them.

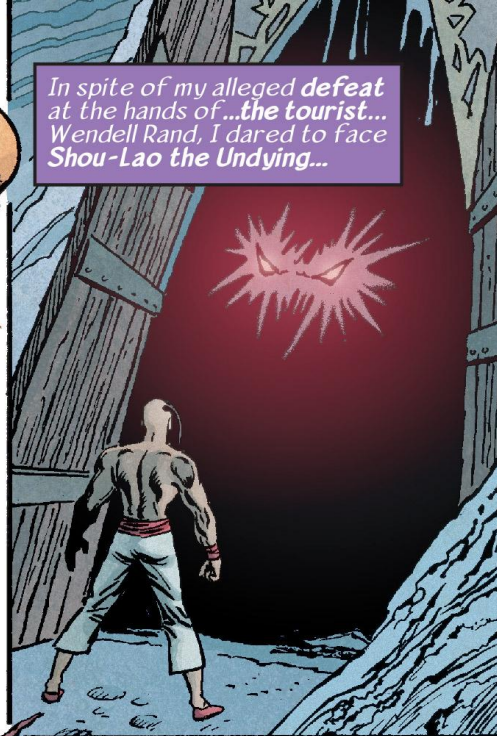


HAIL HYDRA! HAIL HYDRA! HAIL HYDRA!

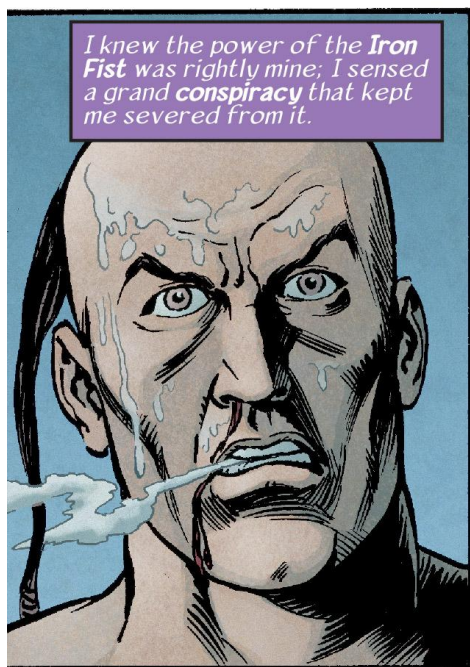
When in truth,
I'm merely
passing the time...



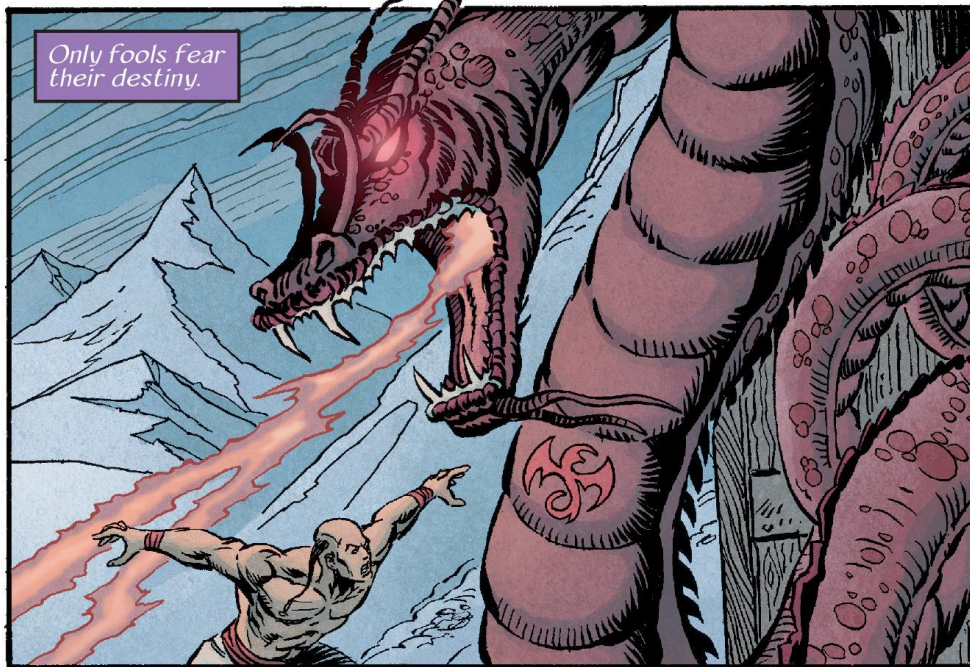
...until I can claim the **destiny** that this **fallen world** has conspired to **keep** from me.



In spite of my alleged **defeat** at the hands of...**the tourist**... Wendell Rand, I dared to face **Shou-Lao the Undying**...



I knew the power of the **Iron Fist** was rightly mine; I sensed a grand **conspiracy** that kept me severed from it.



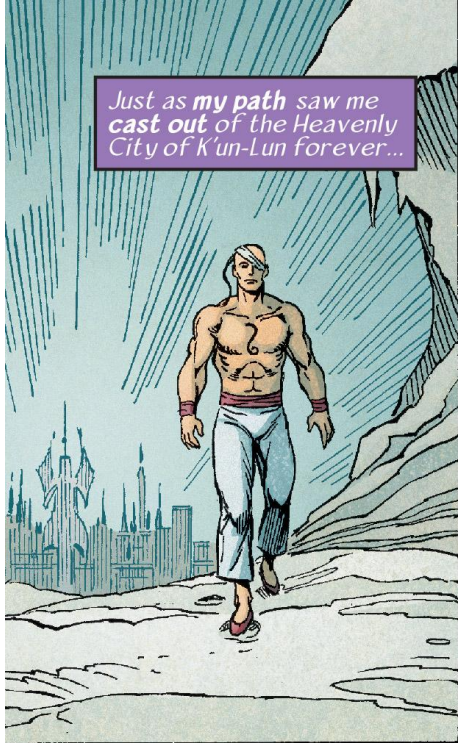
Only fools fear their destiny.



Or fear the **pain** that is destiny's inevitable **price**.



Those who **understand** allow **no obstacle** to stand in their path...



Just as **my path** saw me
cast out of the Heavenly
City of K'un-Lun forever...



...and into the
orbit of the
wretched and
treacherous.



I am Davos, the Steel Serpent.

That which is not **given**
to me is mine to **take**.



Not even **death**
could stop me.

Try as it **might**, as it did
when I tried stealing Daniel
Rand's chi from within him...



And even from that, I
have returned to **roam**...



...for only
destiny truly
understands...

I am a champion.

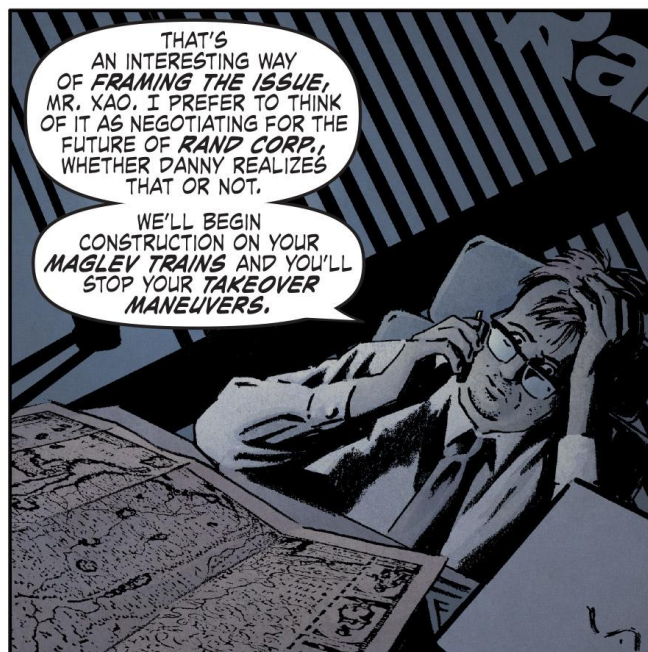




I'M SORRY--PLEASE REPEAT YOURSELF? I WAS...*DISTRACTED*... MOMENTARILY BY THE MOST *REMARKABLE* SIGHT.



I BELIEVE WE WERE NEGOTIATING YOUR *SURRENDER*, MR. HOGARTH.



THAT'S AN INTERESTING WAY OF *FRAMING THE ISSUE*, MR. XAO. I PREFER TO THINK OF IT AS NEGOTIATING FOR THE FUTURE OF *RAND CORP.*, WHETHER DANNY REALIZES THAT OR NOT.

WE'LL BEGIN CONSTRUCTION ON YOUR *MAGLEV TRAINS* AND YOU'LL STOP YOUR *TAKEOVER MANEUVERS*.



YOU UNDERSTAND IT WAS ONLY THE *TECHNOLOGY* THAT REMAINED OUTSIDE OF OUR GRASP. YOUR CORPORATION IS FUNCTIONALLY *USELESS* TO US. TO BE PERFECTLY FRANK, I'LL BE GLAD TO AVOID ALL THE PAPERWORK.

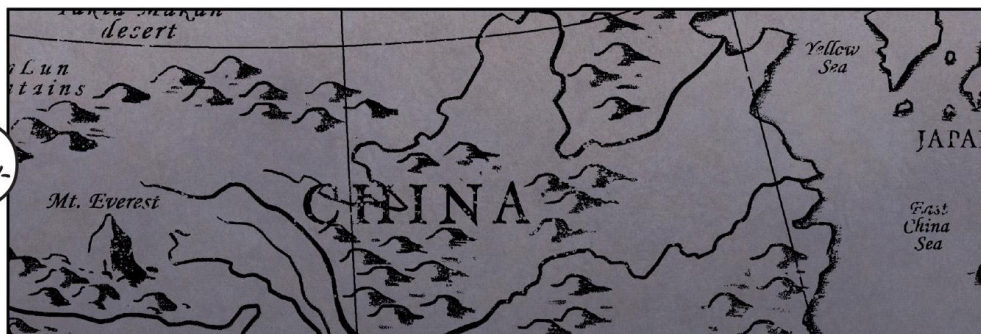
NOW: REGARDING THE *DEMONSTRATION MODEL*.



90% OF THE CONSTRUCTION SUPPLIES AND SUPPORT PERSONNEL ARE ALREADY THERE. WE CAN START BUILDING THE DEMO ROUTE YOU'VE SPECIFIED AS SOON AS NECESSARY...



...200 KILOMETERS OF ULTRAMAGNETIC TRACK CUTTING ACROSS THE *K'UN-LUN MOUNTAINS*.



NOW-- BEFORE YOU GO-- *PLEASE*-- CAN I SPEAK TO HER?



"CAN I SPEAK TO HER" WHAT?

CAN I SPEAK TO HER... SIR?



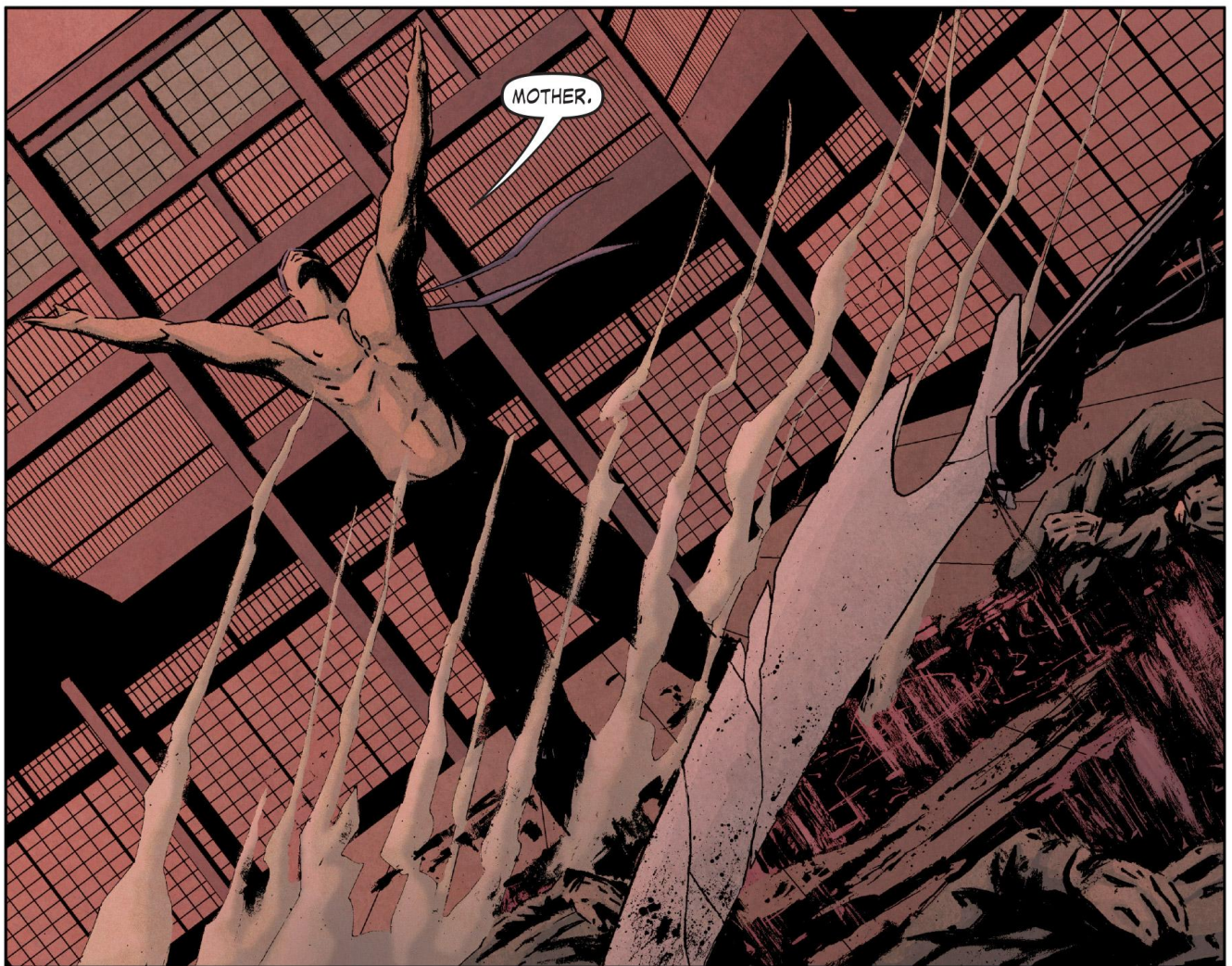
NO, YOU MAY NOT.





My name is **Danny Rand**. I am the **immortal Iron Fist**.

My name is **Orson Randall**. I am the **immortal Iron Fist**.



MOTHER.



YOUR
ADOPTED
SON CALLS TO
YOU.

DAVOS

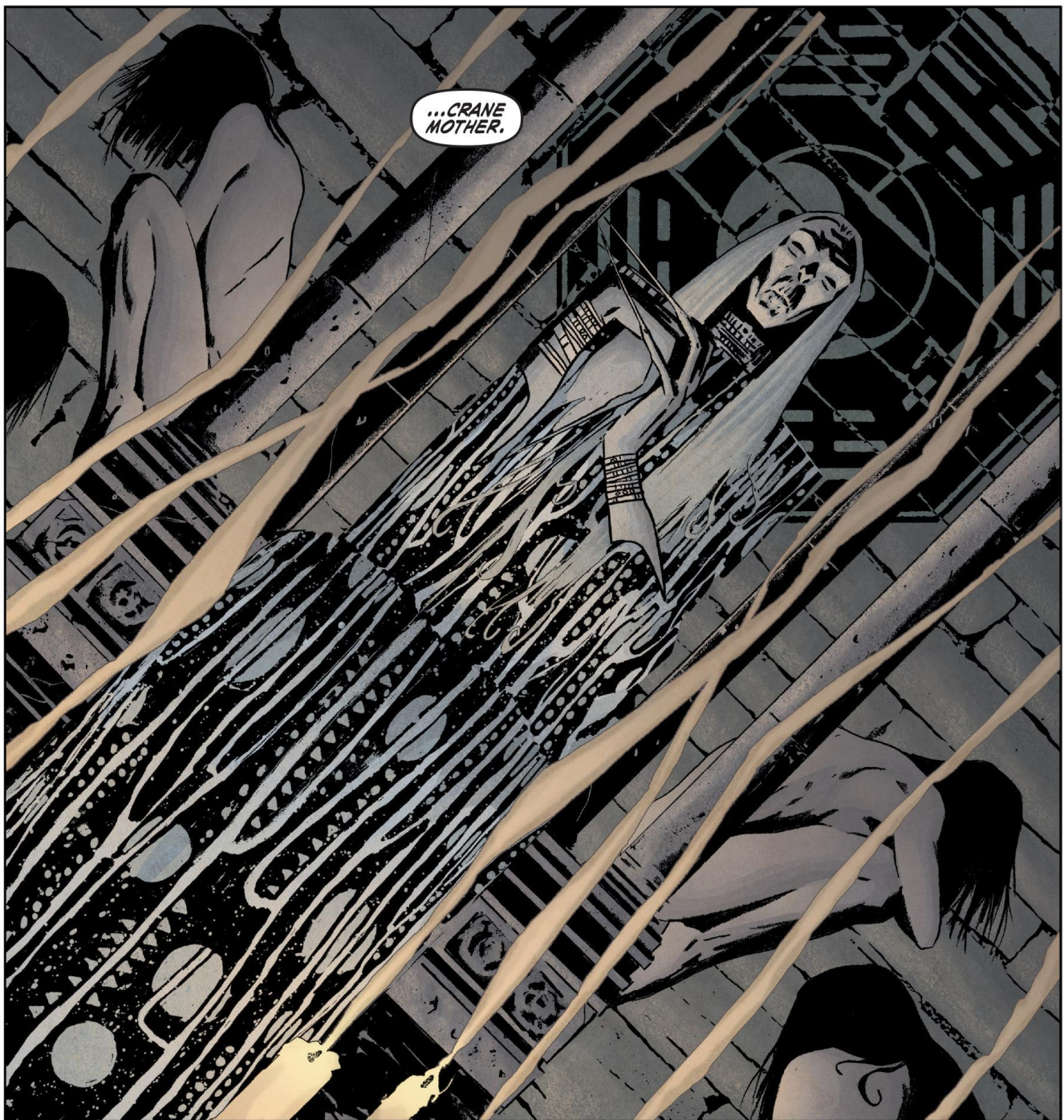


OUR CHILD.
SPEAK.



MOTHER, I'LL
NEED MORE OF YOUR
DAUGHTERS, A DOZEN,
MAYBE MORE. SENT TO
ME IN NEW YORK CITY
IMMEDIATELY.

I'M FUNCTIONING
AT MY VERY *PEAK*; AND I'LL
REQUIRE AS MUCH *FUEL* AS
YOU CARE TO PROVIDE IF I'M TO
FULFILL THE TERMS OF OUR
ARRANGEMENT...



THEN
THE PRICE WE
PAID TO BRING YOU
BACK WAS WORTH
IT...



AND YOU,
OUR **CHAMPION**,
OUR **LIVING WEAPON**
AND DEFENDER
OF THE ANCIENT AND
VENERATED CITY OF
K'UN-ZI...

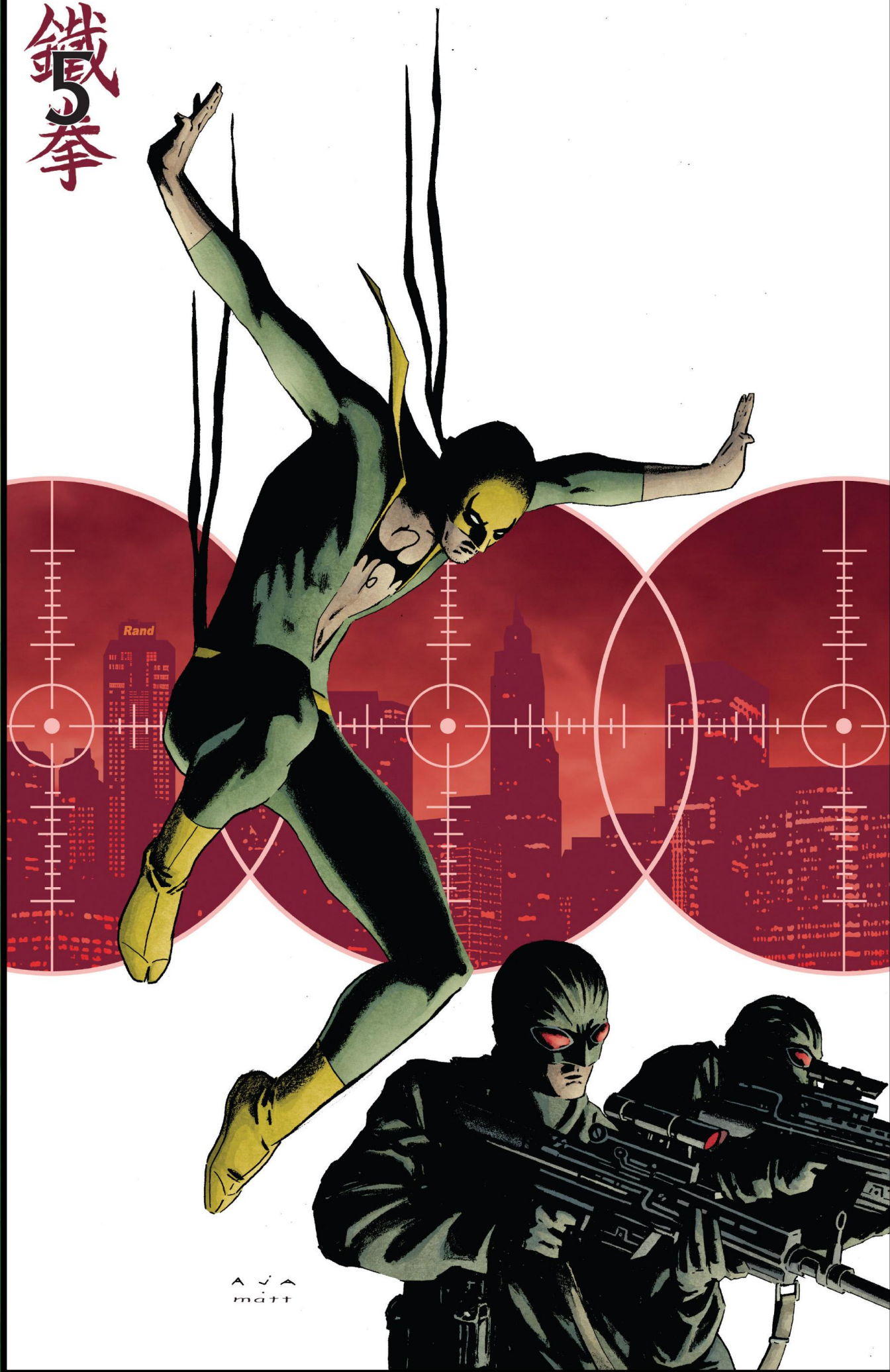
OUR
DAUGHTERS
ARE YOURS TO **USE**
AS YOU **SEE**
FIT.



THEN I SHALL
KILL ORSON RANDALL...
IN EXCHANGE FOR THE LIFE OF
DANIEL RAND, YOUR ADOPTED
SON WILL AVENGE THE
ATROCITIES COMMITTED
BY K'UN-LUN...

...Against all of us.

鐵5拳



1933.

This is **sacred** ground.

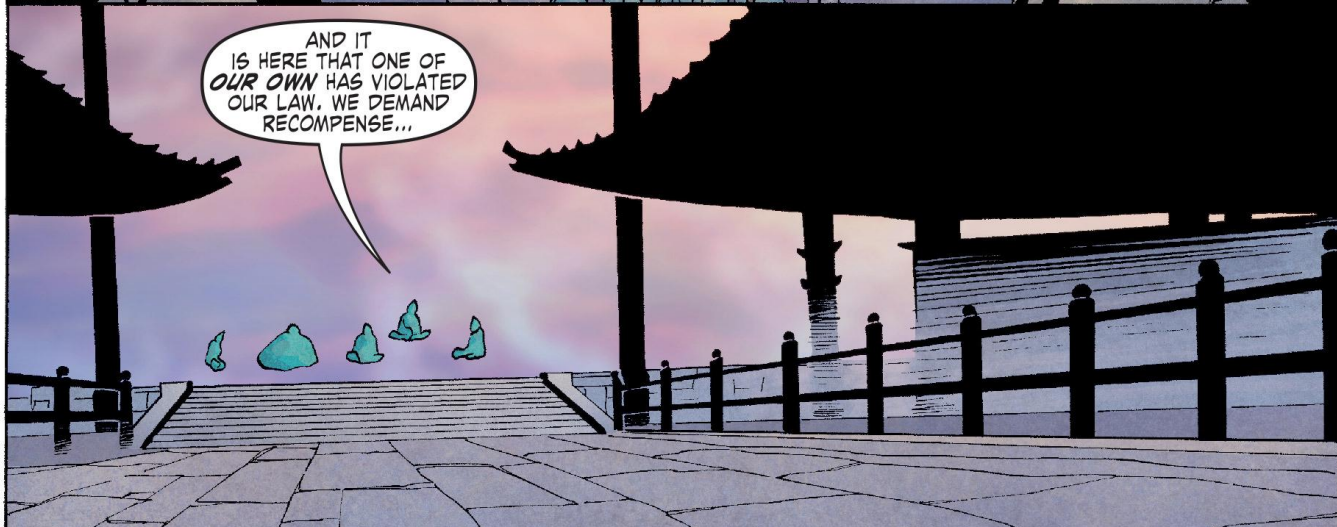


This arena, a **church**.

It is here that we, the **lords of the seven capital cities of Heaven**, convene and **celebrate** that which is our most **holy** duty.



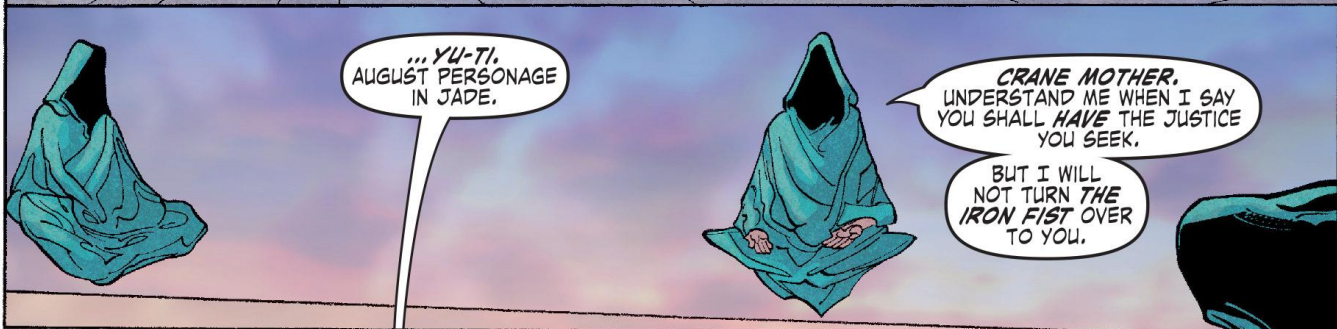
AND IT IS HERE THAT ONE OF **OUR OWN** HAS VIOLATED OUR LAW. WE DEMAND RECOMPENSE...

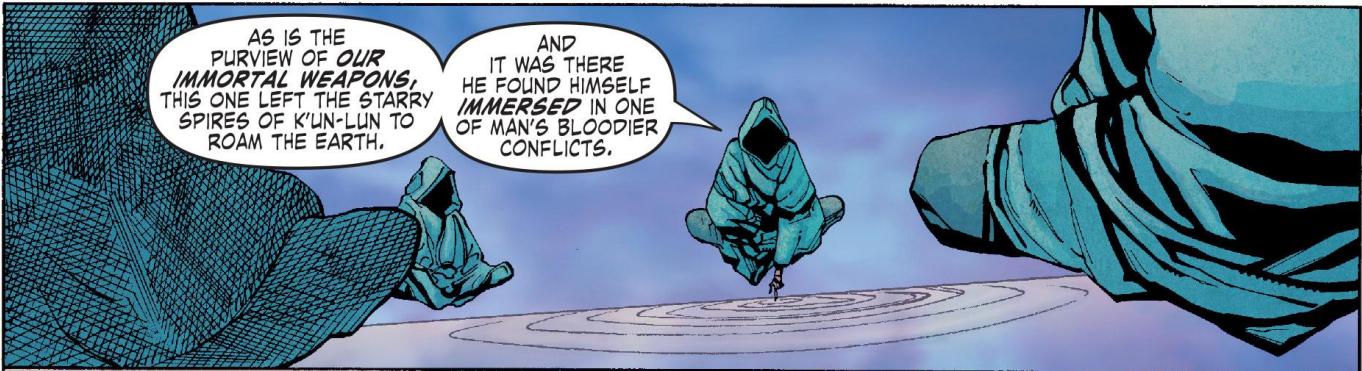


... **YU-TI**, AUGUST PERSONAGE IN JADE.

CRANE MOTHER. UNDERSTAND ME WHEN I SAY YOU SHALL **HAVE** THE JUSTICE YOU SEEK.

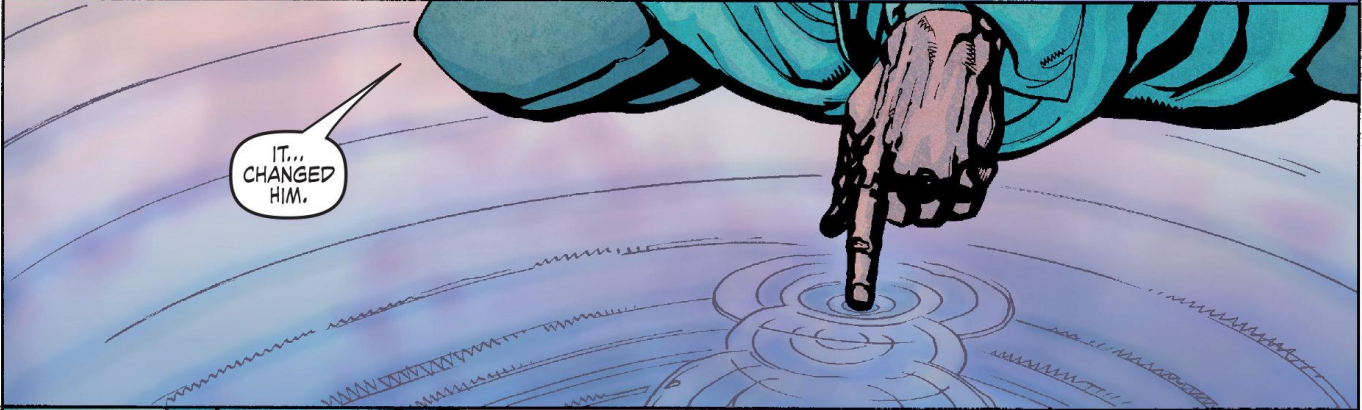
BUT I WILL NOT TURN **THE IRON FIST** OVER TO YOU.





AS IS THE
PURVIEW OF *OUR*
IMMORTAL WEAPONS,
THIS ONE LEFT THE STARRY
SPIRES OF K'UN-LUN TO
ROAM THE EARTH.

AND
IT WAS THERE
HE FOUND HIMSELF
IMMERSED IN ONE
OF MAN'S BLOODIER
CONFLICTS.



IT...
CHANGED
HIM.

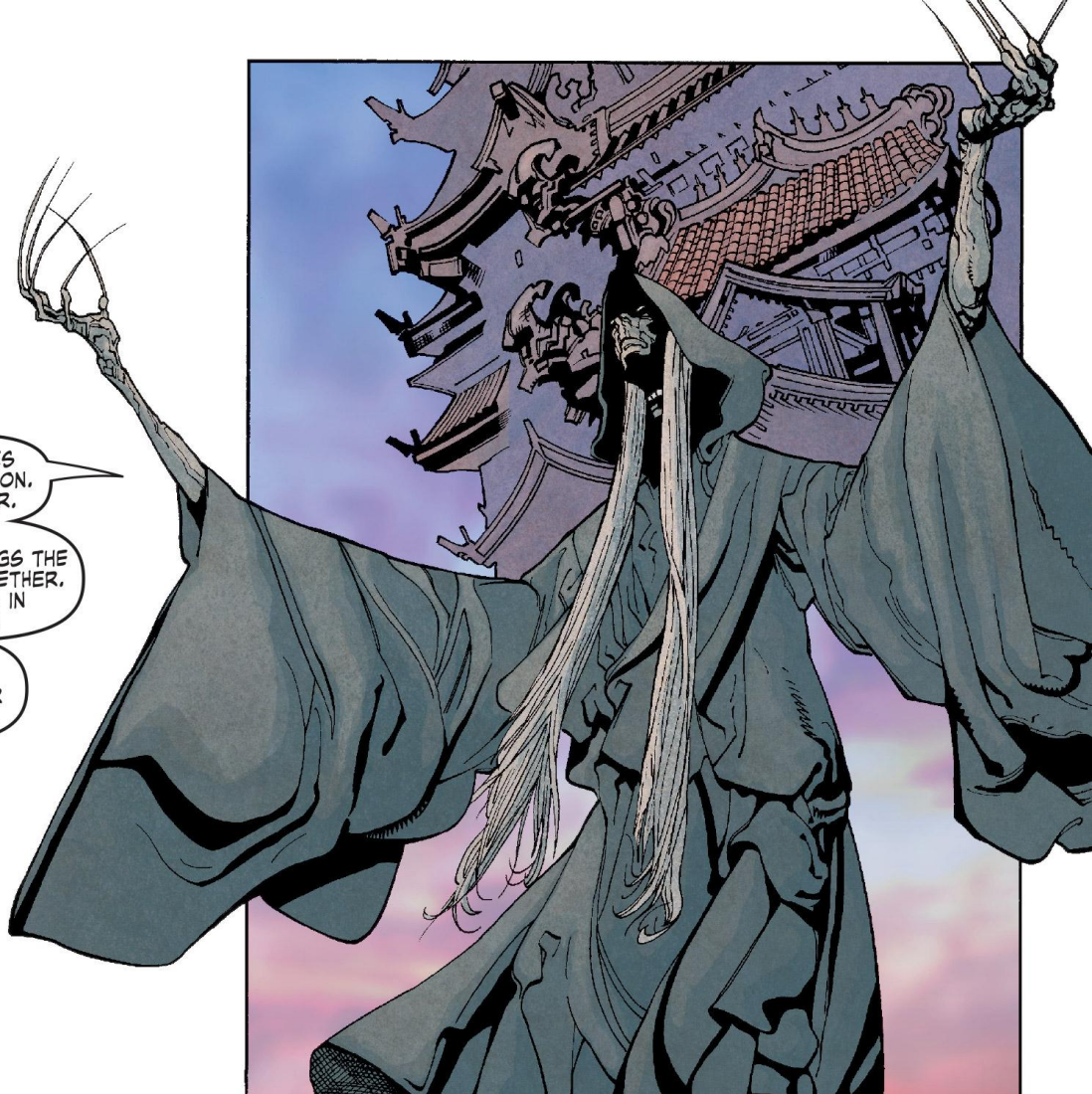


OUR WEAPON
REFUSES TO FIGHT. HE
DOES NOT REFUSE TO
PARTICIPATE.



A WEAPON
WHO REFUSES
TO BE WIELDED?
TO DEFEND THE
HONOR OF HIS
CITY?

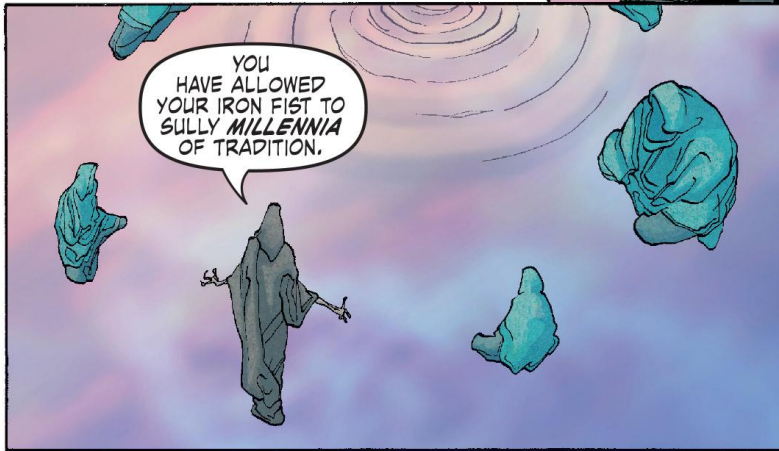
NONSENSE.



CENTURIES
OF TRADITION.
OF HONOR.

THE *ONE*
EVENT THAT BRINGS THE
SEVEN CITIES TOGETHER.
IN THIS *TIME*, IN
THIS *PLACE*.

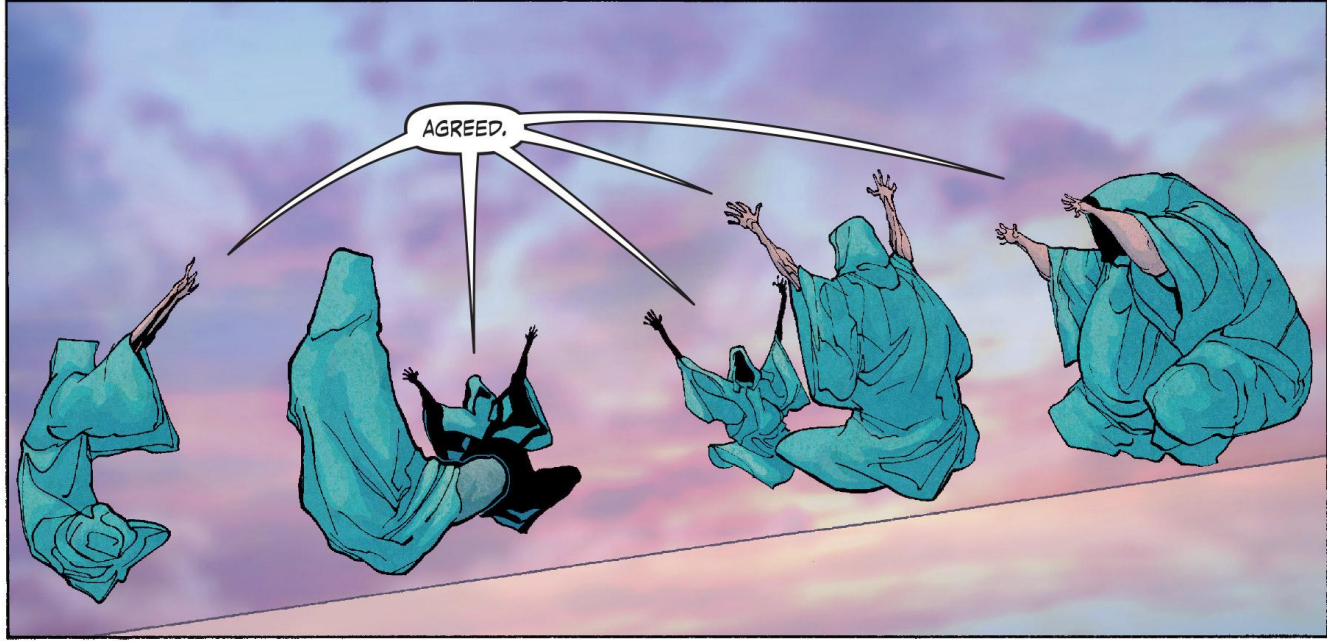
AND YOU,
YU-TI. AND YOUR
WILLFULNESS. YOUR
PERMISSIVENESS.



YOU
HAVE ALLOWED
YOUR IRON FIST TO
SULLY *MILLENNIA*
OF TRADITION.



AND SO
HE MUST PAY.
IS THE COUNCIL
AGREED?



AGREED.



Golden star gouge.



Strike of the silkworm's tooth.



Burning dove chop.



Palm of forty sorrows.



Tiger scratch (2nd stance).



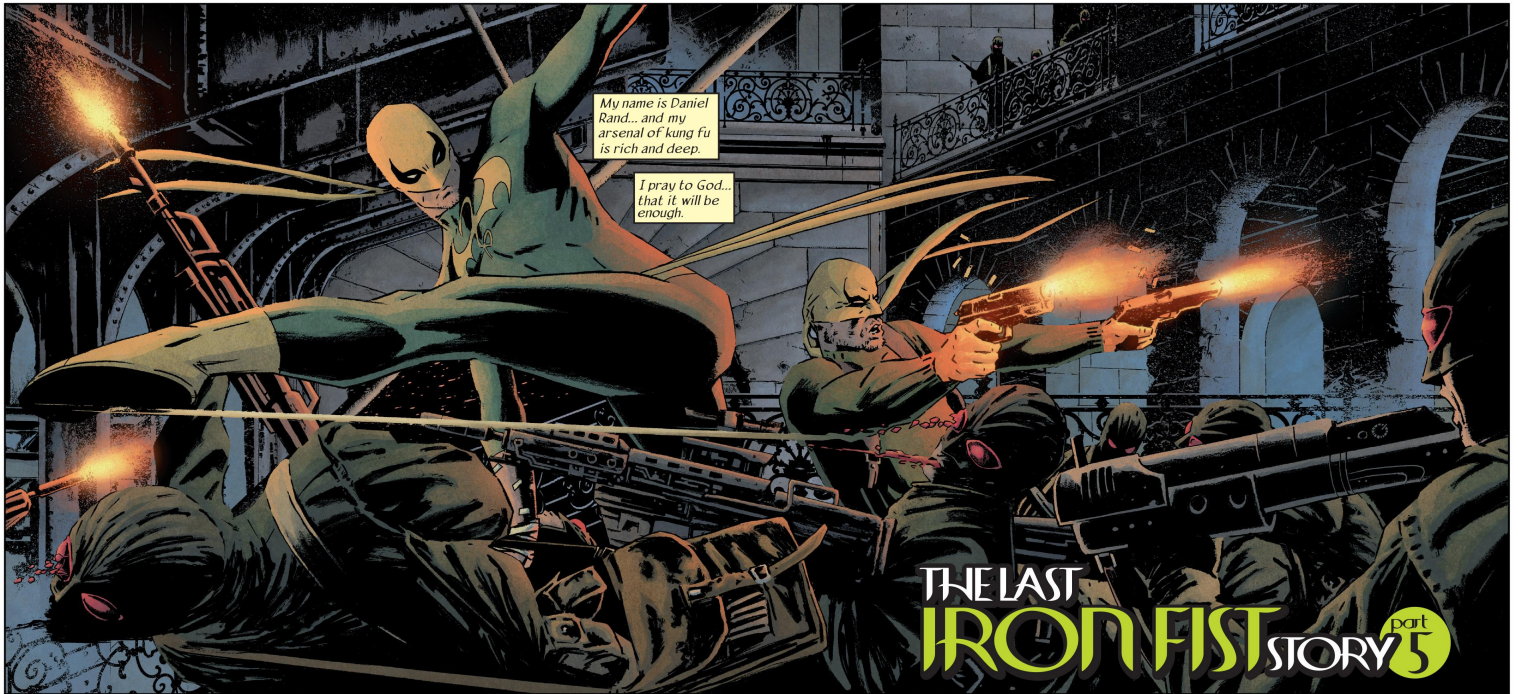
Drunken wasp sting.



Good fortune thunder kick.



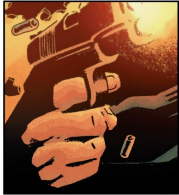
Brooklyn headbutt.



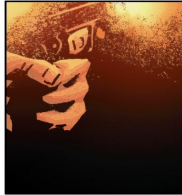
For Tony.



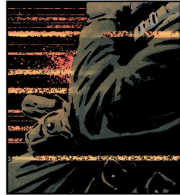
For Jean-Claude.



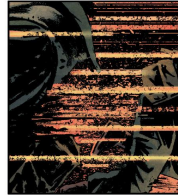
For Marie.



For Milo the cigarette dog.



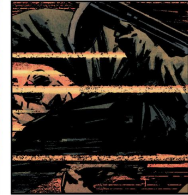
And Raymond and Peter.



And that kid from Iowa.

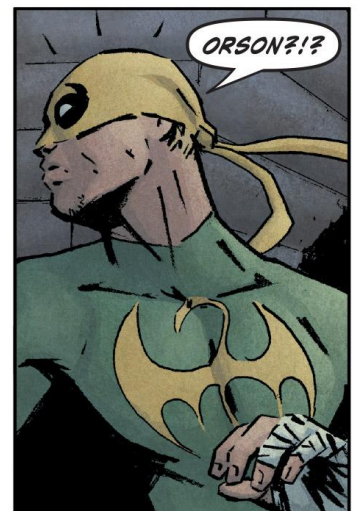


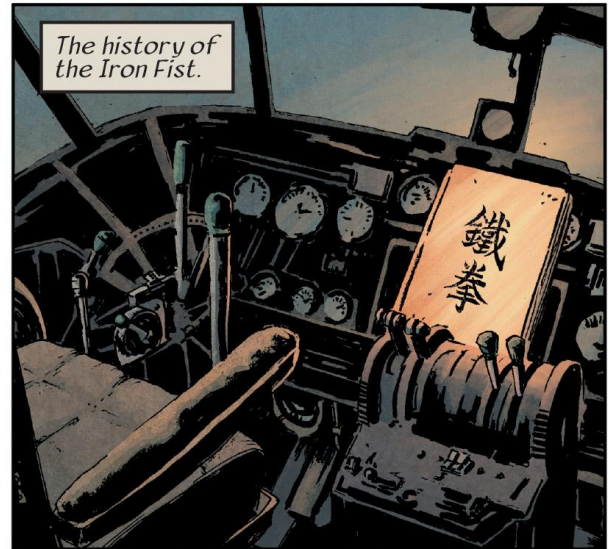
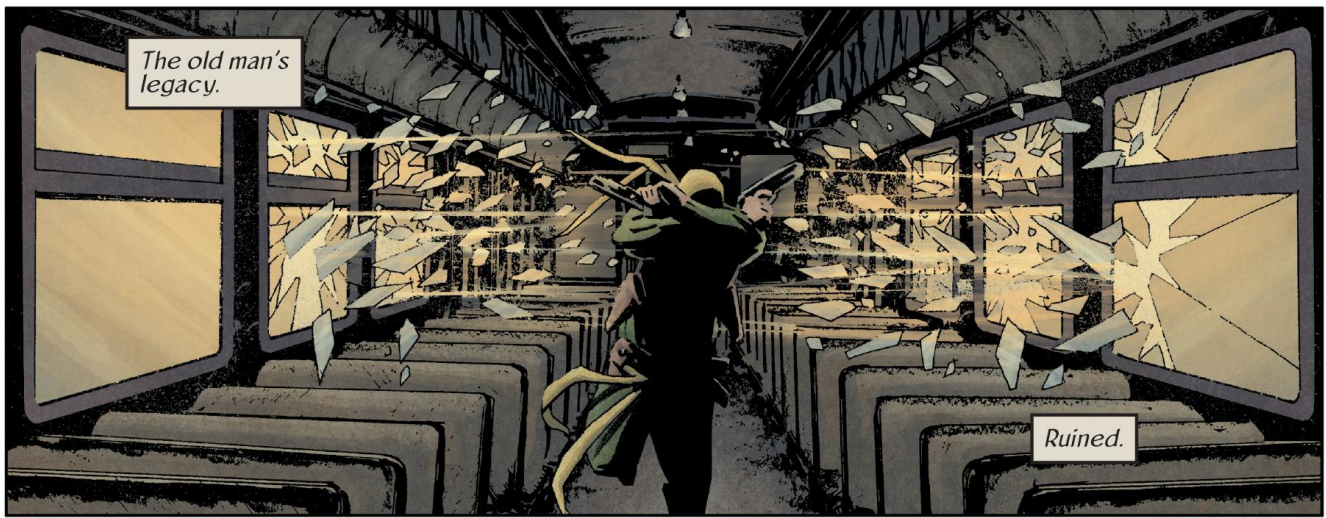
What was that kid's name?

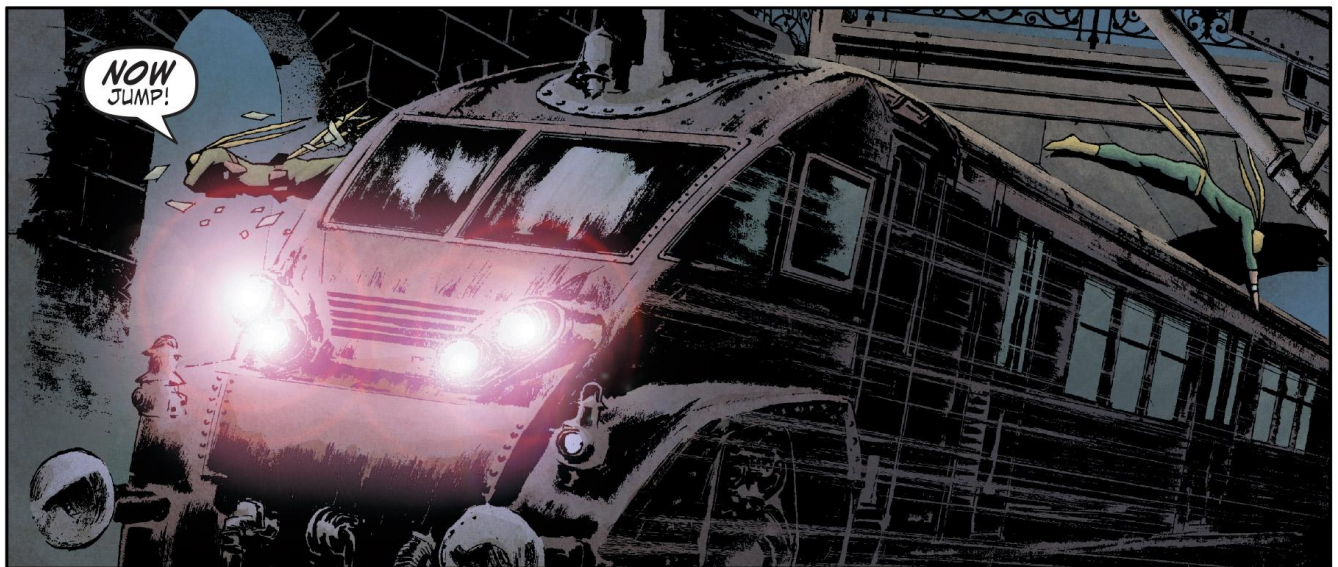


Damn it, I can't remember his name anymore.









What a world he
could have made.



C'MON.

≡KHHAKE≡
≡KHHAKE≡



WE HAVE
TO GET OFF THE
STREETS. THEY'LL
COME LOOKING
FOR US.



WE HAVE
TO--

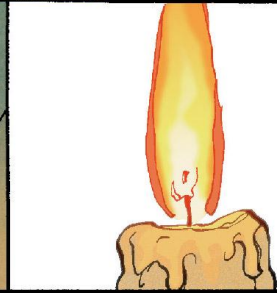
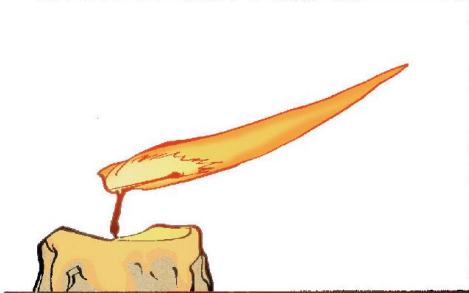
I KNOW.
I JUST--



I'M
JUST SAYING
GOODBYE.



*They came
without sound.*



*There was
hardly any
warning at all.*

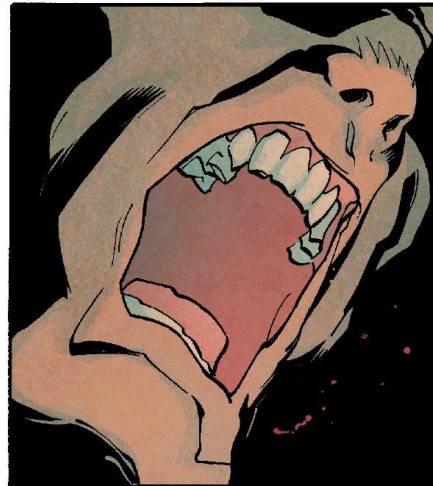
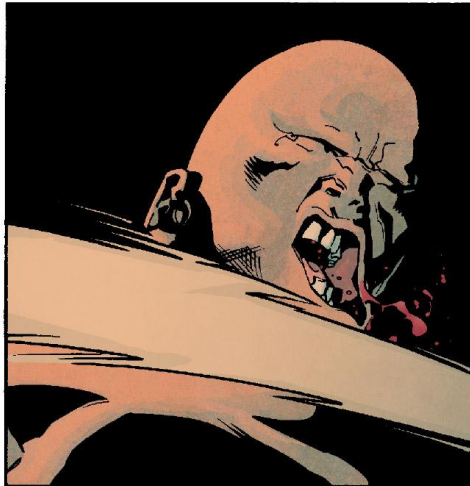


I refused to fight.
I **told them** I
refused to fight.

They wouldn't take
no for an answer.

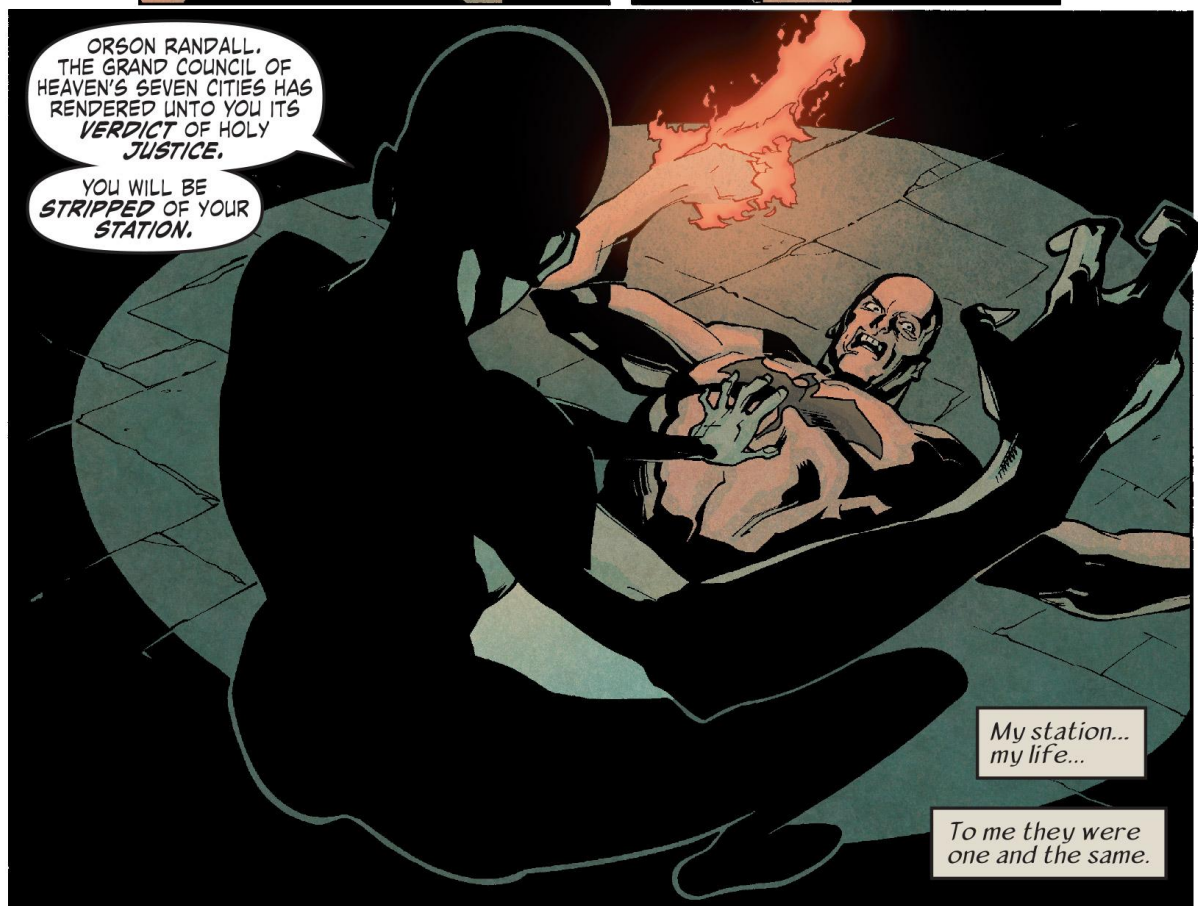
So I fought.

Badly, but I
fought them
all the same.



But even in
this rain of
blows and
bloodshed, I
felt no fear...

...until I
realized **why**
they had come.



ORSON RANDALL,
THE GRAND COUNCIL OF
HEAVEN'S SEVEN CITIES HAS
RENDERED UNTO YOU ITS
**VERDICT OF HOLY
JUSTICE.**

YOU WILL BE
STRIPPED OF YOUR
STATION.

My station...
my life...

To me they were
one and the same.



HE'S
LOOSE--
HE'S--

*It was blind
panic, as it was
in the trenches
of the war...*



KRRRAAKK



«HE'S
KILLED
HER.»

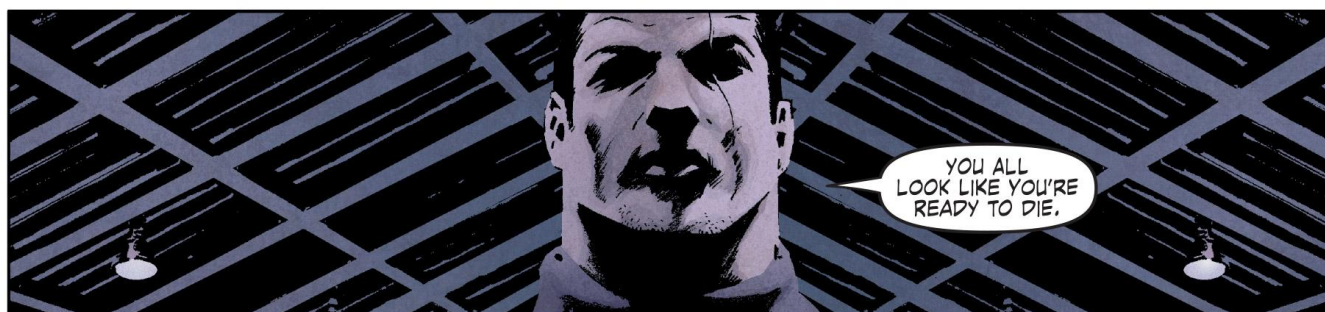


*Then I did what any
sane man would do...*



Iran.

*Iran from
K'un-Lun...*





MA'AMS...



AFTER
YOU.

DAVOS.



OUR MOTHER
WANTED
ME TO PASS
A MESSAGE
ALONG TO YOU...



IF YOU
FAIL US...



WE WILL
CONSUME
YOUR SOUL...



...UNTIL THE
SUN AT THE HEART
OF THE WORLD
BURNS OUT.



DRIVER,
TAKE US TO
RAND CORPORATE
HEADQUARTERS...



...AND DON'T STOP FOR *LIGHTS*.



I'D KILLED
ANOTHER **IMMORTAL
WEAPON**...ONE LIKE **US**.
AND IT BROKE ME WORSE
THAN I WAS ALREADY
BROKEN.

LEI KUNG
UNDERSTOOD THIS, SO
WHEN THEY SENT **HIM** TO
FIND ME, HE TOLD YU-TI
THAT I WAS **DEAD**.

--ANOTHER?



THERE ARE
SEVEN OF **US**, ALL
IN ALL. ONE DAY SOON
YOU'LL BE ASKED TO
FIGHT THEM.

TO **CONTINUE**
THE LEGACY OF BLOOD
AND DEATH, DISGUISED
AS HONOR.



THAT'S
WHY YOU TOOK
THIS?



YES, I HOPED
WITHOUT THAT BOOK--
THE HISTORY--THAT THE
LINE OF THE IRON FISTS
WOULD END WITH
ME.

BUT I WAS
STILL YOUNG THEN.
I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND
THE **WEIGHT** OF IT.



WHAT DO
YOU **MEAN**, I'LL
HAVE TO FACE
THE OTHER--

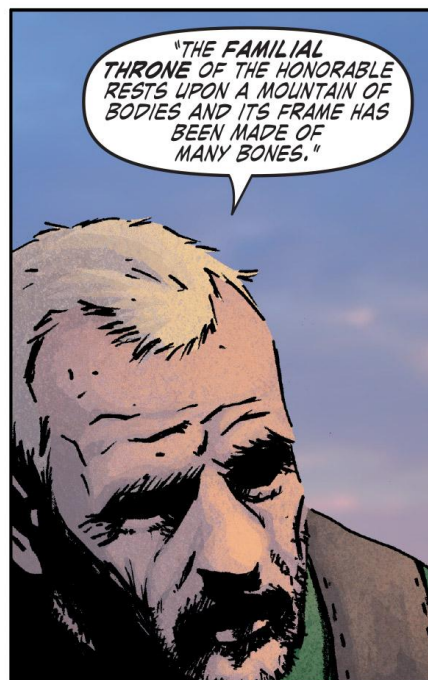
**IMMORTAL
WEAPONS**.

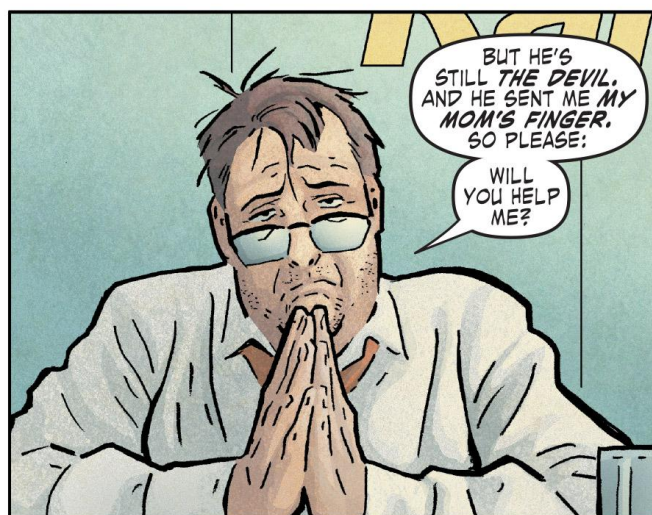
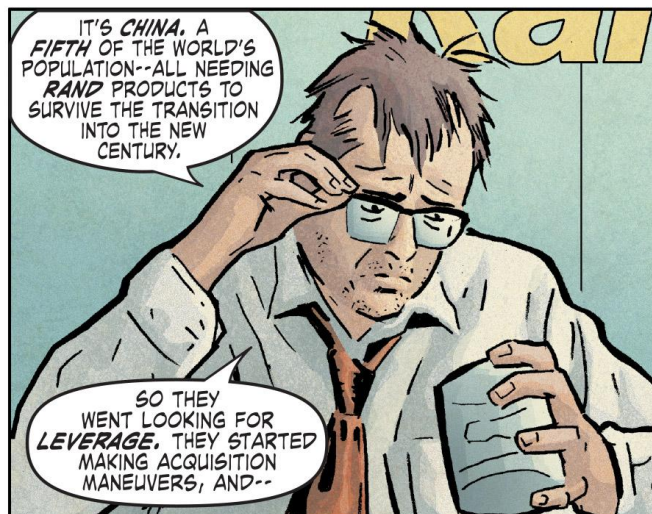
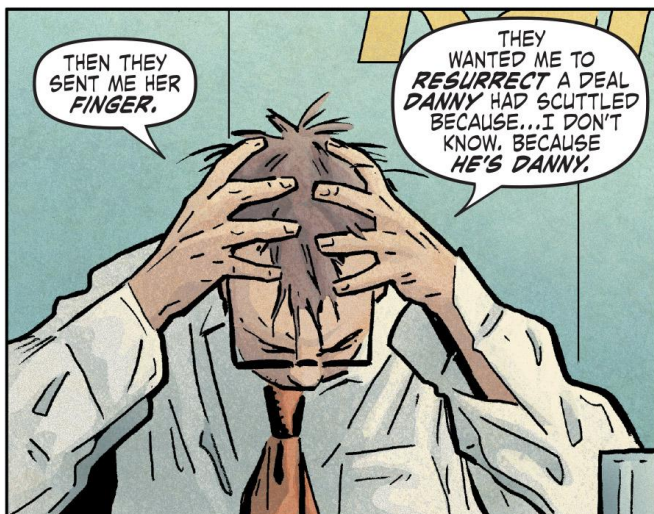
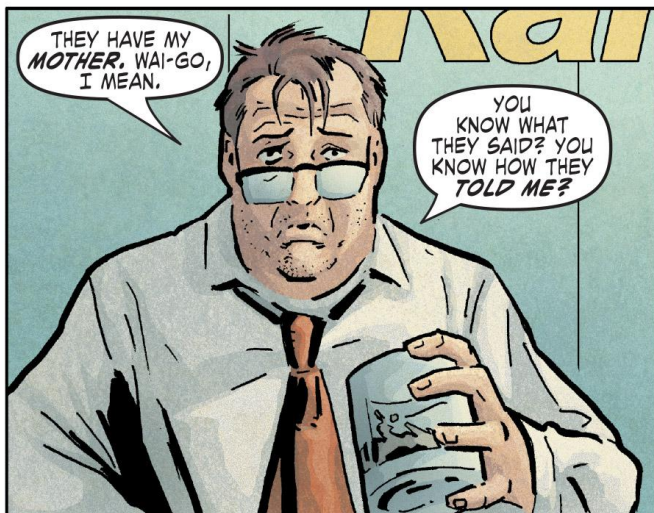
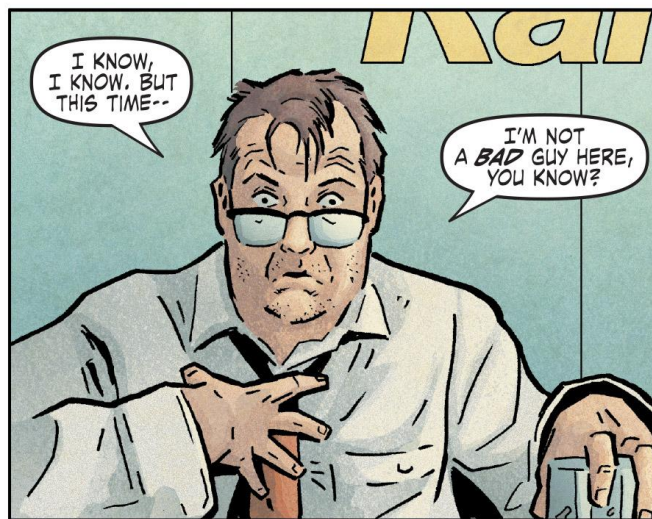
WHEN?
THERE ARE KUNG FU
SECRETS HERE I CAN
BARELY GET MY MIND
AROUND, LET ALONE
MASTER QUICKLY.



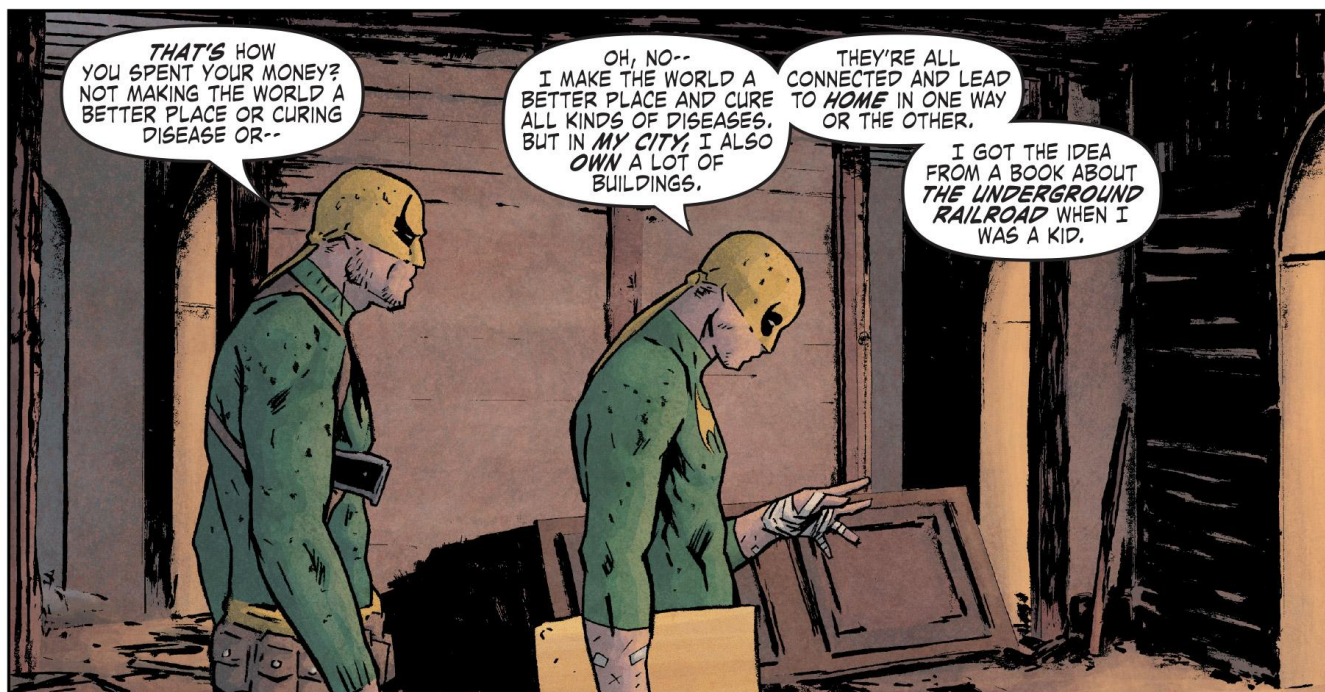
WHY DID
YOU THINK ALL OF
THIS WAS HAPPENING **NOW**?
CRANE MOTHER AND THE
CITY OF **K'UN-ZI** HAVE BEEN
PLANNING THIS FOR
DECADES.

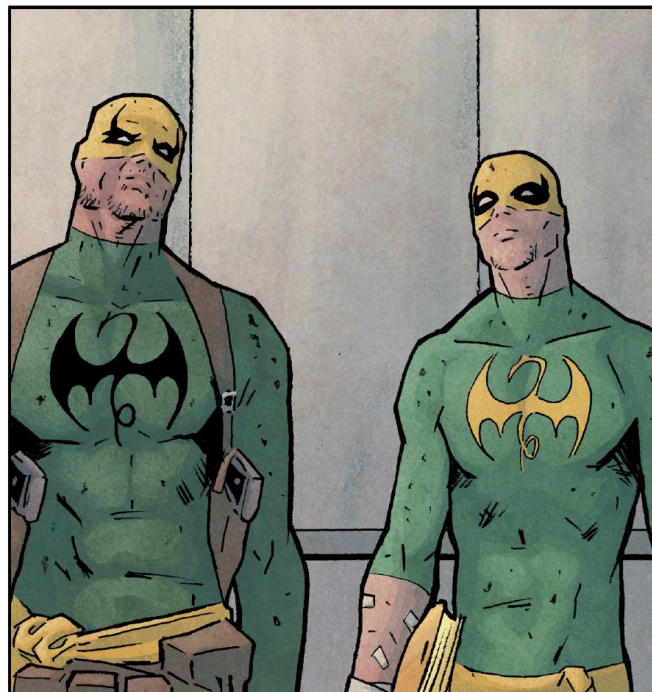
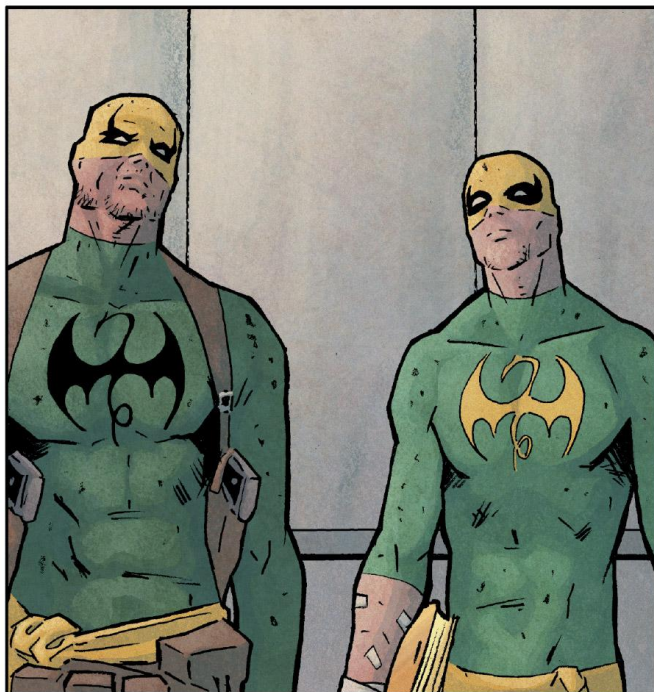
THE IRON FIST
DESTROYED HER **WEAPON**
AND SHE ONLY GIVES BIRTH
TO **ONE** EVERY THREE
HUNDRED YEARS.











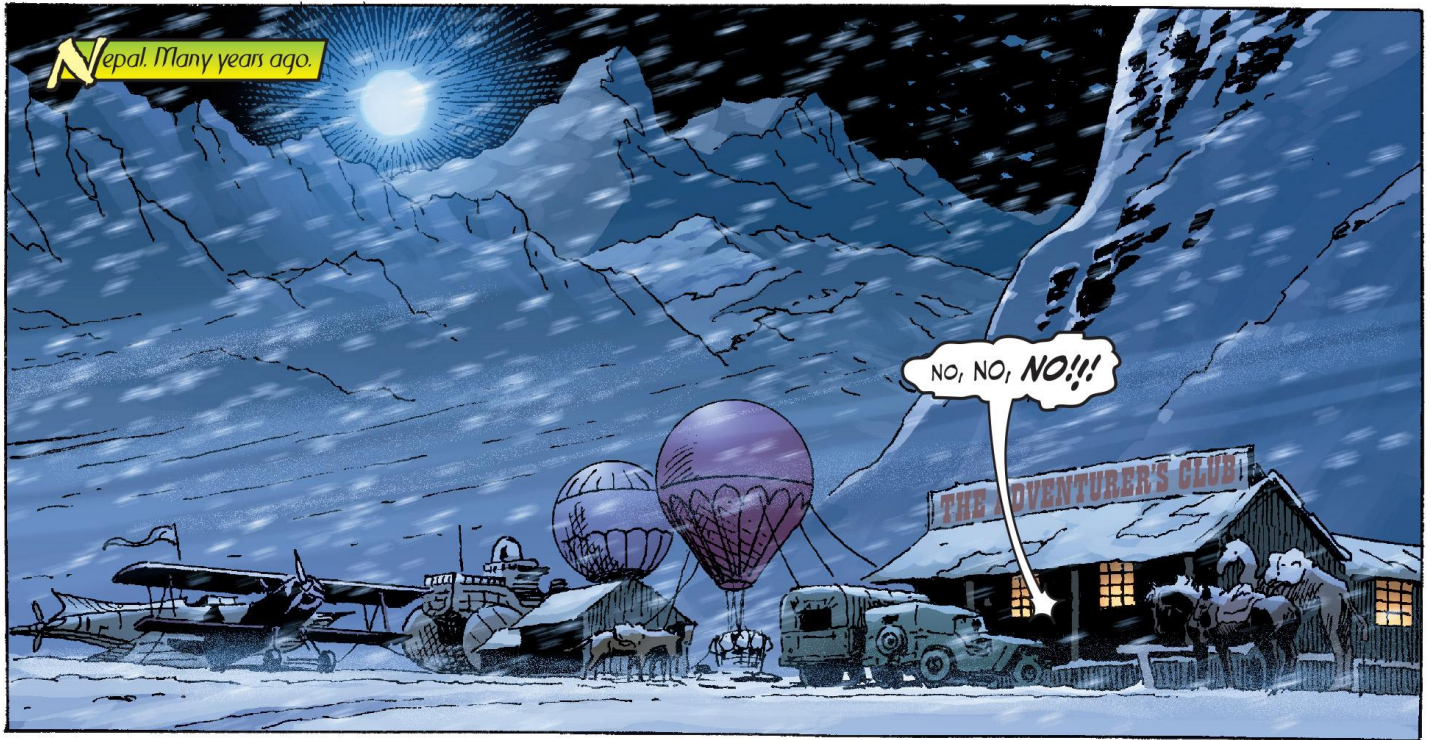


鐵6拳



A J A
matt

Nepal. Many years ago.



DAMN IT,
L.P., THAT THICK
FROG SKULL OF
YOURSSIS GONNA
GET US BOTH--

==URP==

--KILLED.



I'VE
TOLD YOU A
MILLION TIMES,
MR. RANDALL--
I'M NOT
FRENCH.

LOOK--WHEN
I'M THIS DUNK--
THIS DRUNK--
I NEED YOU TAKING
FEWER NOTES FOR
MY AUTOBIOGRAPHY,
AND PAYING MORE
ATTENTION TO
CRAP LIKE...



THE LAST
LIGHTNING
LORD!

AND WHICH
OF THE THREE
MAGIC CHALICES
OF XU-MA HE
POISONED...

<CHOOSE
YOUR CHALICE,
RANDALL...>

<OR, BY THE LOST
DRINKING LAWS OF ME-LAO,
YOU ADMIT DEFEAT AND FORFEIT
YOUR LIFE TO ME, AS MY BROTHERS
ONCE FORFEITED THEIRS
UNTO YOU...>



GGGRRRRKKKKKKKKKKKKKKKKKKKK



HEY--!

UH...
(WHITE BOY!)



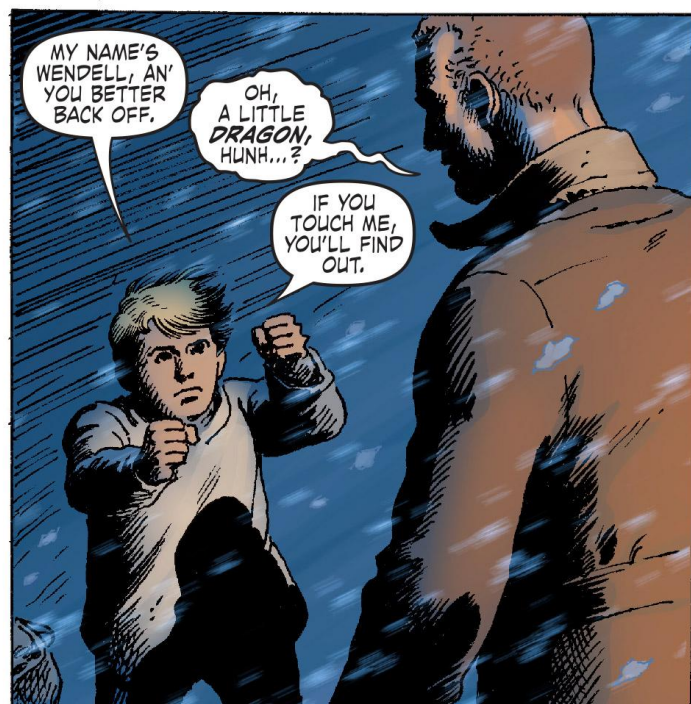
YOU WERE
WATCHIN' A THING
YOU SHOULDN'TA
WATCHED, MINDIN'
BUSINESS WHAT
WEREN'T *YOURS*
TO MIND.

STUCK YOUR
NECK OUT FOR
A TOTAL DAMN
STRANGER.

SO?
WHAT ARE
YOU GONNA *DO*
ABOUT IT?



I'D
LIKE TO SHAKE
YOUR HAND, *BOY*...
AND FIND OUT WHO
THE HELL YOU
ARE...



MY NAME'S
WENDELL, AN'
YOU BETTER
BACK OFF.

OH,
A LITTLE
DRAGON,
HUNH...?

IF YOU
TOUCH ME,
YOU'LL FIND
OUT.



WELL, I'M
NOT GONNA HURT
YOU, WENDELL...
I JUST WANNA
TALK...

...THOSE CELESTIAL
SLAVE-MASTERS
FEED YOU ANYTHING
TODAY?

My name is Danny Rand, and my life is probably **over**.

I stand against a legion of **Hydra Troops**...

Evil kung fu bird women...

ATTACK!

And Davos, the **Steel Serpent**, who holds a longtime grudge against my family.

My only ally, **Orson Randall**, who held the mantle of **Iron Fist** before me...

WE'RE DOOOOOMED.

LESS TALKING.

MORE KICKING.

THE LAST IRON FIST STORY part 6



It comes down to numbers, ultimately...

...and there are just **too many** of them.



They've planned this **too well**, because they know what we are.



But we're also exhausted... we have almost nothing left.

We're both just too dumb to know how to stop **fighting**.



FIGHT FOR ME!

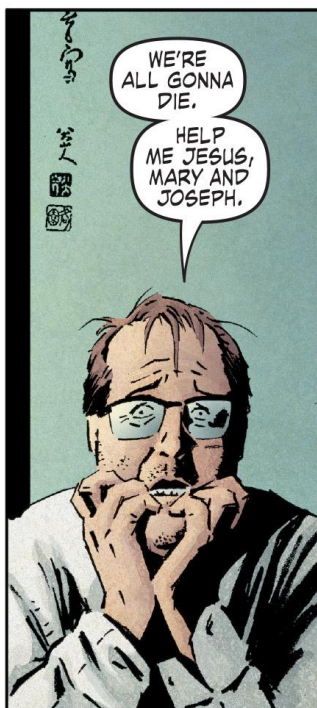


DIE FOR ME!



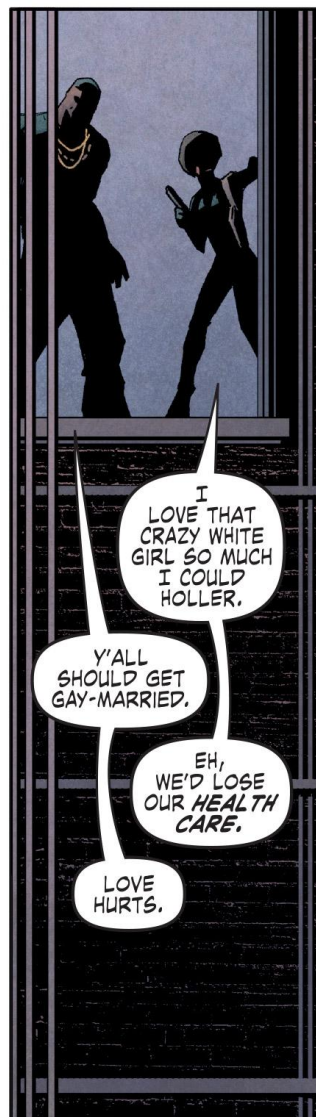
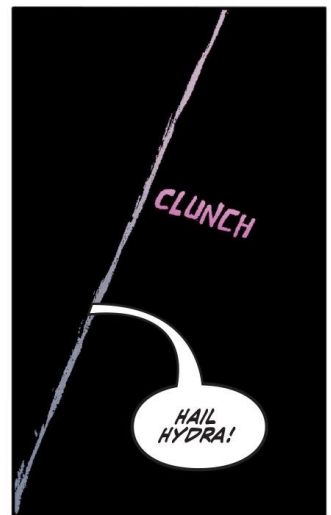
At least **Jeryn** isn't wrapped up in this... and if Jeryn survives, then Rand will survive.

The **corporation**... if not the **bloodline**.











That's the difference
between us, Davos...

KRA-KOOM

You want *eternal life*...

YIELD
TO THE *STEEL
SERPENT!*

YIELD
TO YOUR
DESTINY!

You want *unlimited power*...

C'MON,
ORSON...

EVERYBODY'S
GOTTA DIE
SOMETIME.

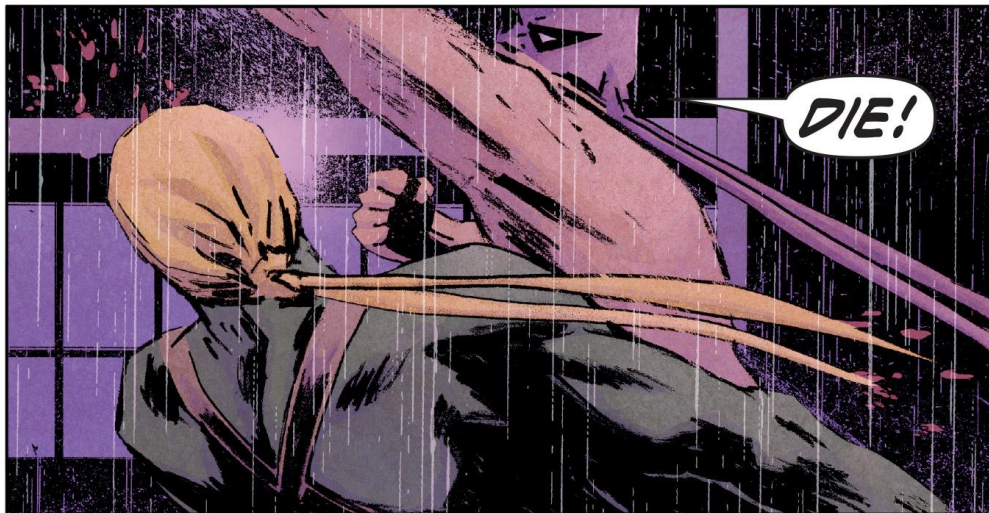
The Iron Fist wants
only *honor in death*.



And in the time it takes me to...



DIE!



DIE!



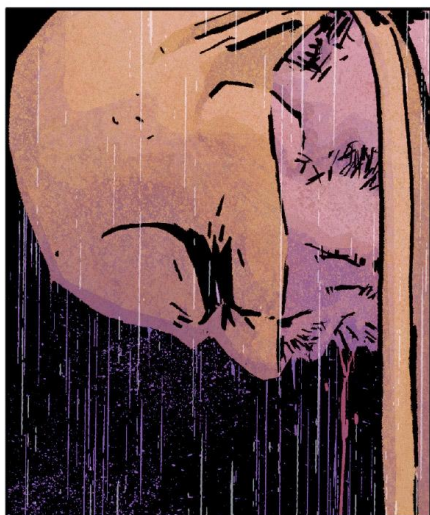
blink



my



DIE!



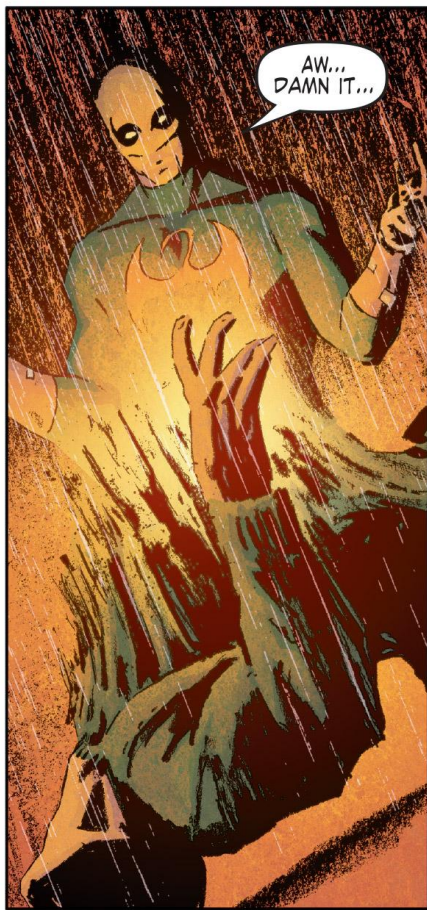
eyes...



...Orson decides that's exactly what he wants.







YES.

DAVOS.

YOU AND
I HAVE SOME
FAMILY BUSINESS
TO RESOLVE...







YOU
COULDN'T BEAT MY
FATHER IN K'UN-LUN,
AND YOU WON'T
BEAT ME.

YOU'RE A
MAD DOG THAT
NEEDS TO BE
PUT DOWN...

AND I
HAVE THE BEST
KUNG FU.

SO BRING IT.



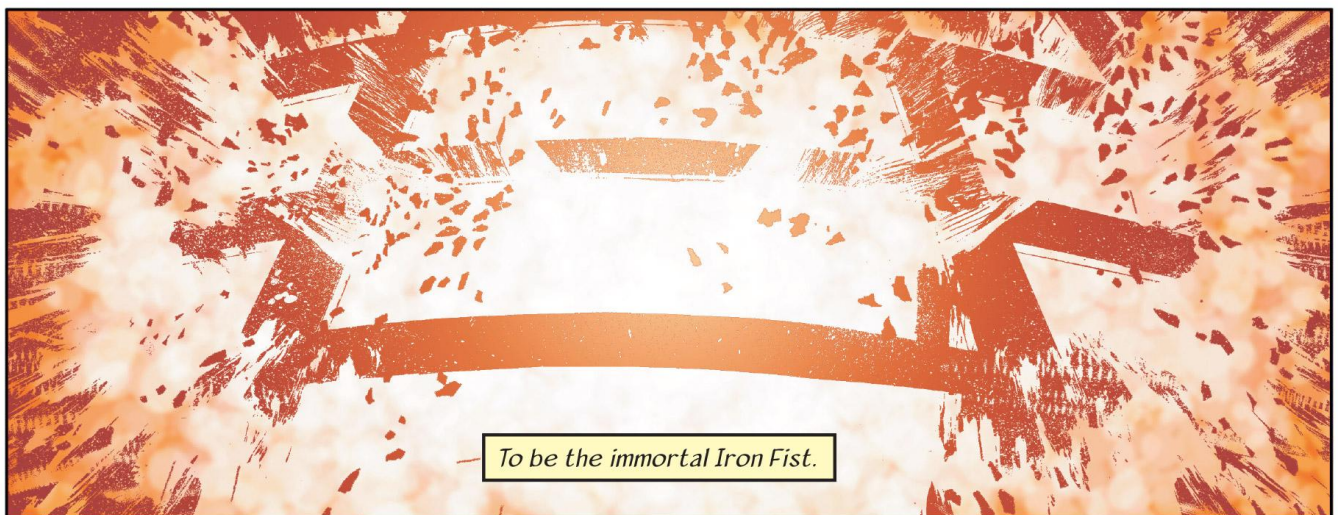
I WILL
SNAP YOUR LITTLE
NECK, DANIEL
RAND.



He'll die trying.

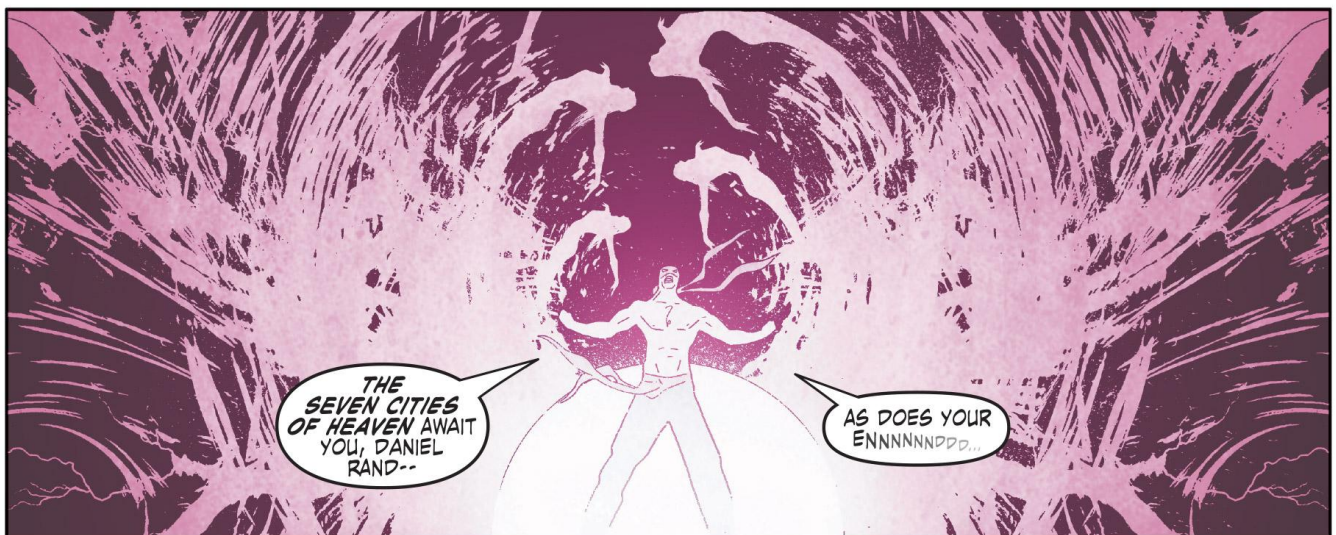
Him and any other little tyrant like him.

Maybe Orson had to die for me to
truly understand what it means...



To be the immortal Iron Fist.

An Iron Fist with a power unlike **anything** Davos has ever faced before...

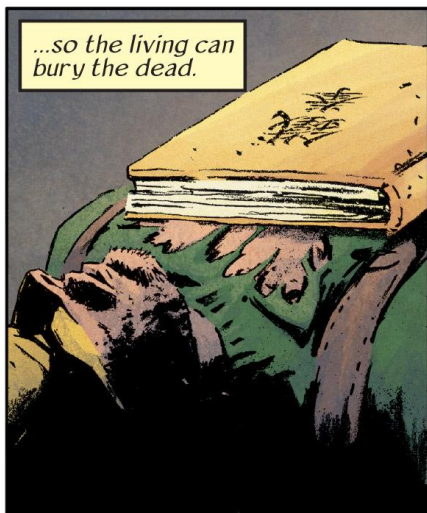


Just like that,
it was over...



...only nothing's ever really over for people like us, is it?

Things just slow down enough so that we can clean up...



...so the living can bury the dead.



I APPRECIATE YOU TWO COMING, MISTY... THAT CAN'T HAVE BEEN AN EASY DECISION...

YOU AND ME MATTER MORE THAN ALL THAT \$#@%, DANNY.

MINUTE WE GOT JERYN'S CALL, WE HIT THE--



WAIT. JERYN. WHERE'S JERYN?



AWWW, DAMN IT--!

HE MUST'VE-- HYDRA MUST'VE-- IN ALL THE CONFUSION--



GIVE ME THAT.

NOOOO PROBLEM.



JERYN HOGARTH. WHERE DID YOU PEOPLE TAKE HIM?

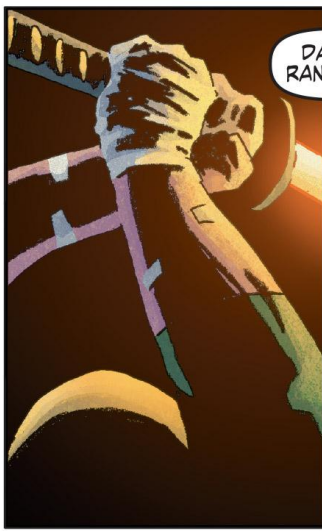


HAI-- HAI--

HAIL HYDRA?



WRONG ANSWER.



DANIEL
RAND-KAI!



STAY YOUR
HAND!

Lei Kung, the Thunderer--the man
who trained me to face the dragon.

Yu-Ti, the August Personage
in Jade, lord of K'un-Lun.



THE
TIME OF THE
**TOURNAMENT OF
HEAVENLY CITIES** IS
AT HAND, AND YOUR
PRESENCE IS
DEMANDED.

THE
SEVEN CAPITALS MOVE
TOWARD UNISON ONCE AGAIN,
AND THE IMMORTAL IRON FIST
SHALL FIGHT FOR THE
HONOR OF K'UN-LUN.



LEI KUNG?
NO...I CAN'T LEAVE.
NOT NOW. ORSON...
YOUR **SON** KILLED
ORSON.

THE **LAST**
IRON FIST'S DEATH
IS A TRAGEDY WE WILL
MOURN TOGETHER,
DANIEL...BUT YOU **WILL**
COME WITH US.

NO...
THEY KILLED
HIM, **AND** THEY
TOOK MY
FRIEND...

...DON'T YOU
UNDERSTAND
THAT?

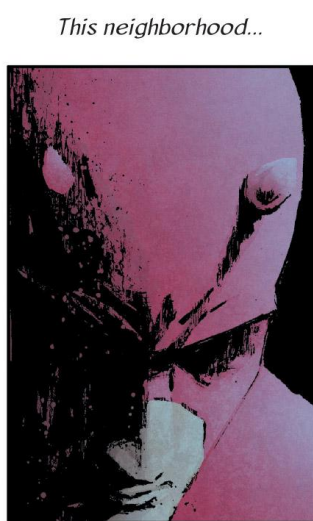
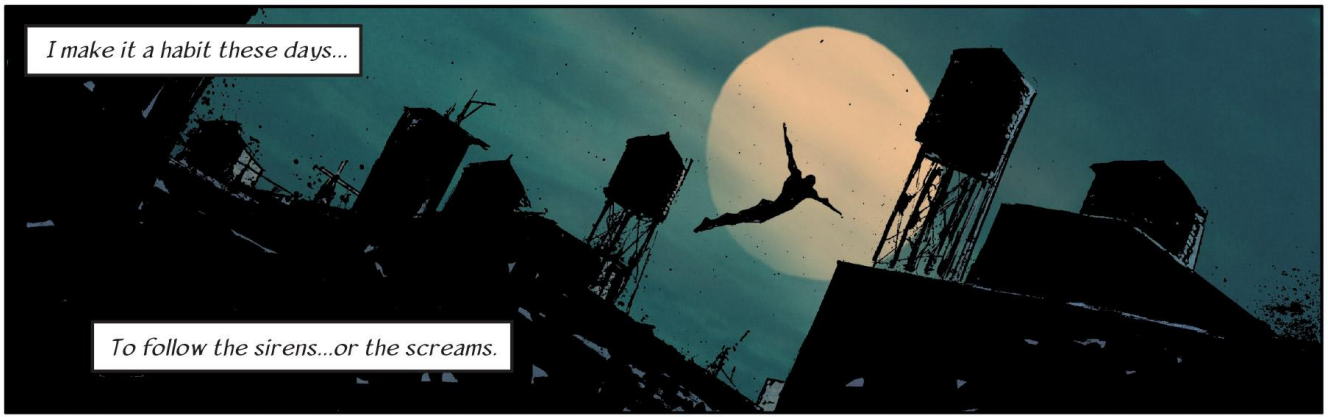


I DO...BUT
THOSE YOU SEEK
VENGEANCE ON WILL
BE FOUND WHEN THE
HEAVENLY PLANES
INTERSECT...

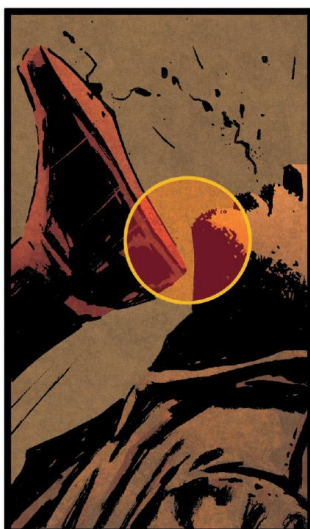
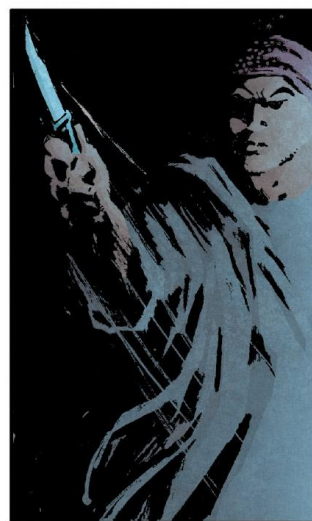


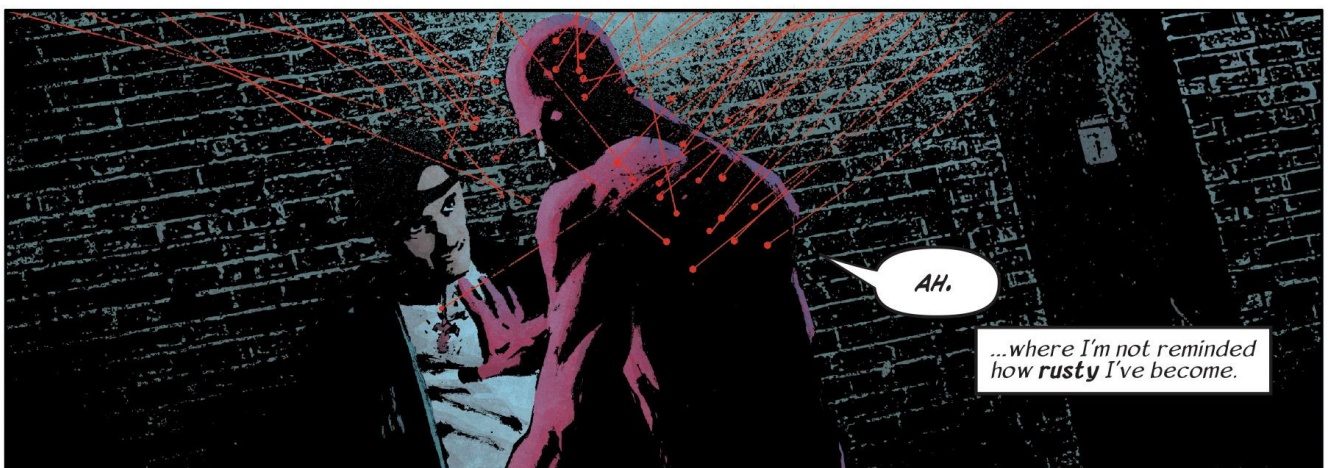
The following 8-page story was first printed in the one-shot *CIVIL WAR: CHOOSING SIDES*. Tying into *CIVIL WAR*, this "issue #0" story bridges the gap between the pages of *Daredevil* — where Danny Rand masqueraded as the Man without Fear to cover for his imprisoned friend Matt Murdock — and *IRON FIST #1*.





This neighborhood...







THE IMMORTAL IRON FIST "CHOOSING SIDES"

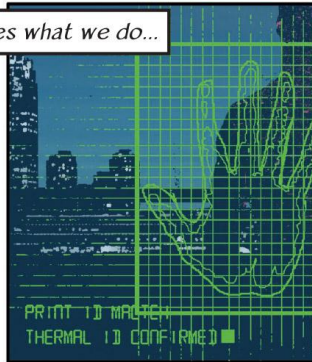




...but **war** changes everything.



It changes what we do...



PRINT ID MATCH
THERMAL ID CONFIRMED



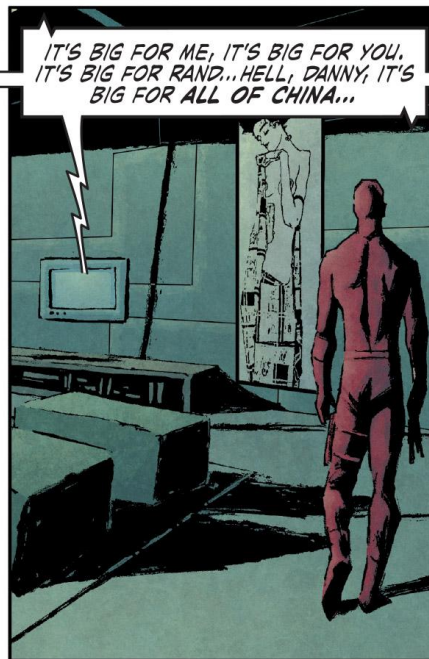
...even if it doesn't change **who we are**.

PRINT ID MATCH
THERMAL ID CONFIRMED
IDENTITY CONFIRMED
RAND, DANIEL
ACCESS GRANTED



YOU HAVE
ONE
MESSAGE.

DANNY, IT'S **JERYN**. LOOK,
THIS THING COMING UP
NEXT WEEK, IT'S PRETTY
BIG FOR US. LIKE, **BIG** WITH
CAPITAL **BILLIONS**...



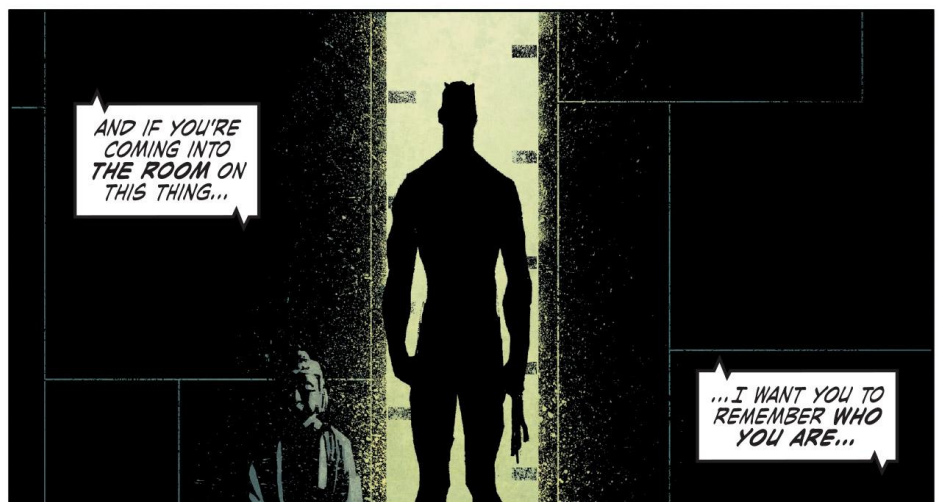
IT'S BIG FOR ME, IT'S BIG FOR YOU.
IT'S BIG FOR RAND...HELL, DANNY, IT'S
BIG FOR ALL OF CHINA...



...AND EVERY-
BODY HERE CAN
APPRECIATE THAT
YOU WANT TO **GET**
INVOLVED AND
MAKE AN
APPEARANCE AT
THE **FINISH LINE**,
BUT...



...WELL, DANNY, IT'S NOT LIKE
YOU'VE MADE ANY **SECRET** OF
NOT BEING AROUND FOR THE
LAST, UH, **FEW YEARS** OR
ANYTHING...



AND IF YOU'RE
COMING INTO
THE ROOM ON
THIS THING...

...I WANT YOU TO
REMEMBER **WHO**
YOU ARE...



I WANT YOU TO
REMEMBER WHAT
YOU DO...



...AND I WANT YOU TO
KNOW WHERE YOUR HEAD'S
SUPPOSED TO BE AT.

DON'T SCREW THIS UP, DANNY.

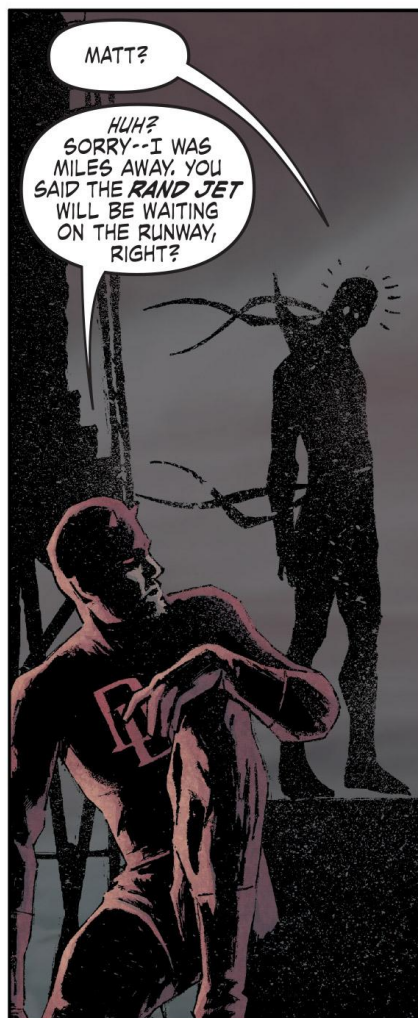
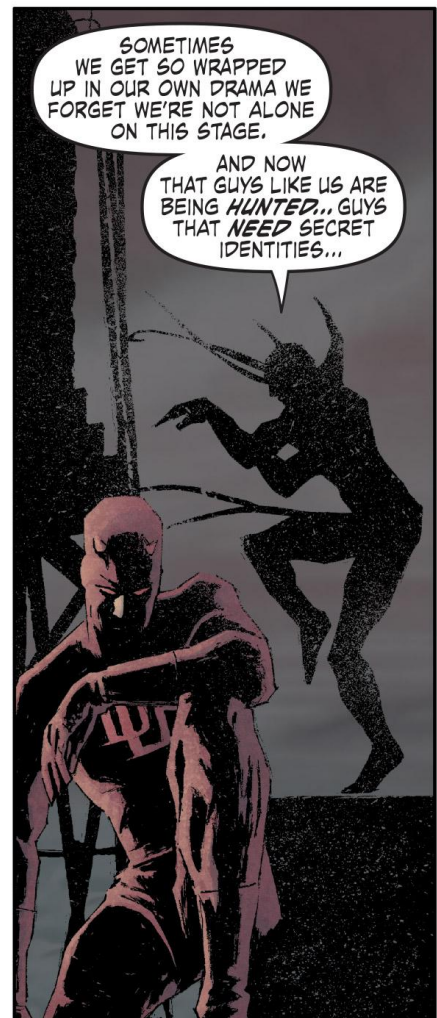


Remember who I am.
What I do.



And where my head's
supposed to be at.

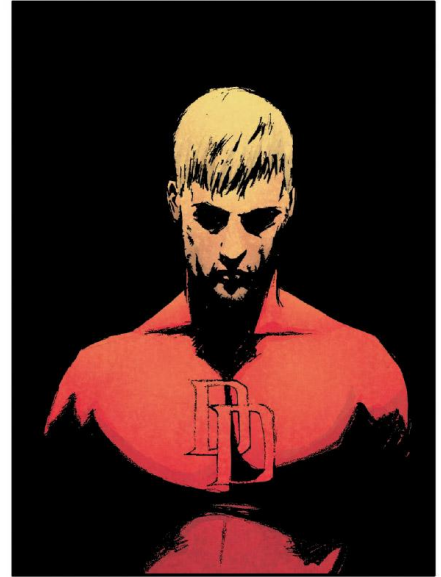
All right.



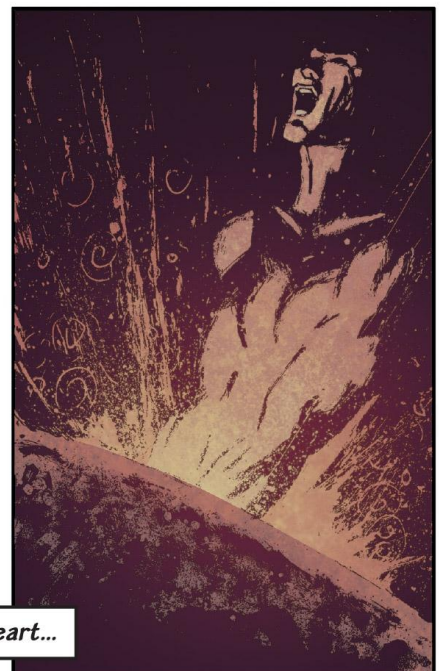
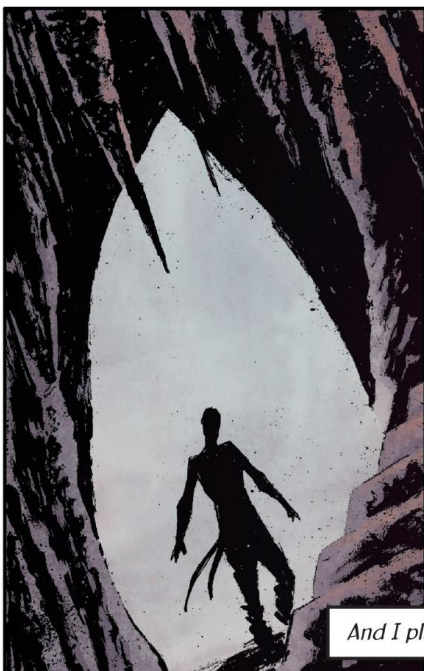
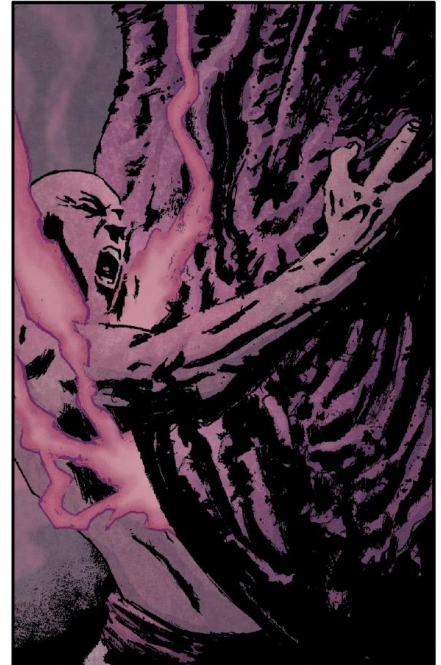
"...UNTIL YOU DON'T
NEED ME TO ANYMORE."



*I was trained...
to be a living weapon...*

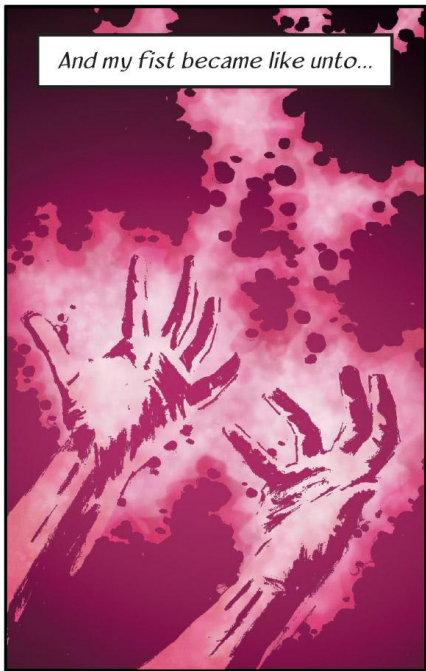


*Before me, the beast called **Shou-Lao**,
the **Undying**, lay slain...my flesh marked
as his own...*



*And I plunged my hands into his burning and unholy **heart**...*

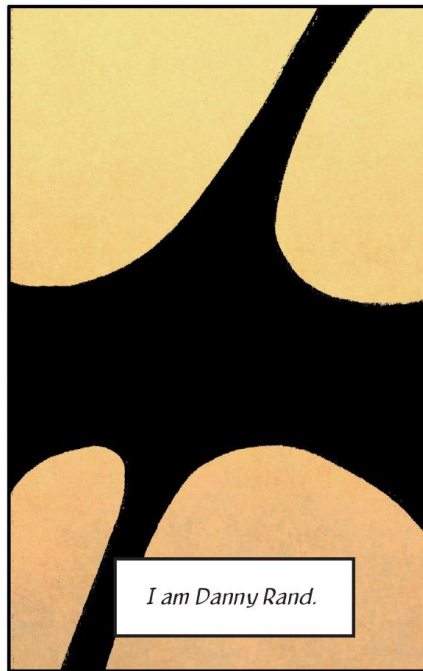
And my fist became like unto...



...a thing of **iron**.



I am Danny Rand.



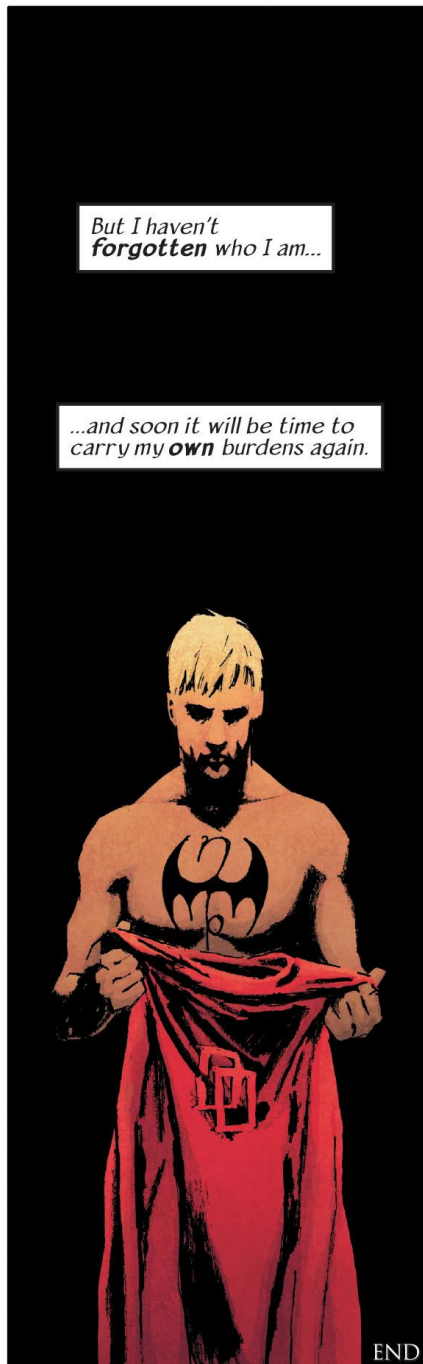
The Immortal Iron Fist.



I made a promise to Matt Murdock to wear his mask...I've fought this war in his place... And I'll continue to.

But I haven't **forgotten** who I am...

...and soon it will be time to carry my **own** burdens again.



END

CHARACTER DESIGNS

with commentary by artist David Aja



We all agreed the costume needed a minor update, and the first thing Ed suggested was changing his ankle slippers for 'ninja'-type boots. After that, we started working out the details: wide pants, cinched pants; collar, no collar; combinations of colors...but always keeping the spirit of the original costume.

Changing the suit was always part of my plan. I think the collar takes away some of the dynamic impact, and the open chest could work in the '70s...but today, not really. I intended to visualize the new costume design [at right] side by side with the current Luke Cage and still have them match. So when I saw that the Mechagorgon destroyed Danny's original costume, I thought, 'This is my chance!' It also looked better with Danny's bandages than the open chest would have.

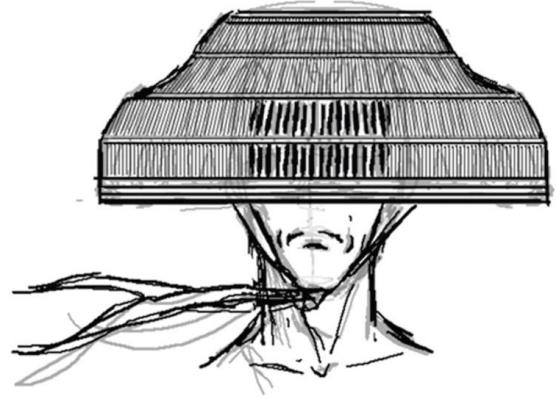
Matt suggested we do a costume sort of like Bruce Lee's yellow track suit in 'Game of Death,' and I came up with these just to show him how crappy it would look. It's horrible.





This sketch was created one morning while I worked on *Daredevil* #88. I didn't know yet that I would do [Iron Fist] and I still hadn't started to design anything. That was how I found out and agreed to do the series.

This was one of the many small ideas I had during the sketching process. In case Danny became a Hero for Hire again, this was for him to greet his clients in a more elegant costume.



The first thing I was clear on [when designing the past Iron Fists] was that there couldn't be spandex before the 20th century, and from there on it was research, looking at old paintings and woodcuts, Hong Kong period movies, etc...I also wanted to evolve the characters' attire as a precedent to Danny's current costume. For Bei Ming-Tian, I based myself on the classic vestments of Shaolin monks. Matt and Ed wanted to add a 'ronin'-style hat, so, basing myself on the styles of Chinese straw hats, I added a mesh for his eyes more in the Japanese style. I also added a scar on his eye, possibly from his encounter with Shou-Lao.



BEI MING-TIAN (1194-1227)

BEI BANG-WEN
(1827-1860)



Bei Bang-Wen is a variation of the uniforms of [19th-century Chinese revolutionaries] the Boxers. I wanted to create the feeling of a pretty "informal" costume.

For Orson Randall, the look was very clear: a little bit of [classic pulp heroes] the Phantom, Doc Savage, the Shadow and the Spider, plus the current Iron Fist mask.

ORSON RANDALL (1900-1933)



Wu Ao-Shi would have her eyes painted in honor of Bei's scar, which would later become the typical feature of the eyes of the Iron Fist mask.



鐵拳

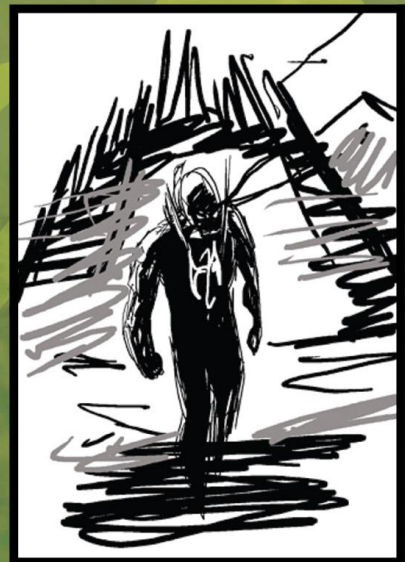
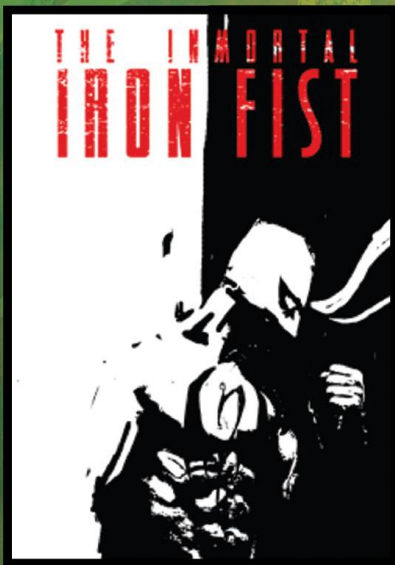
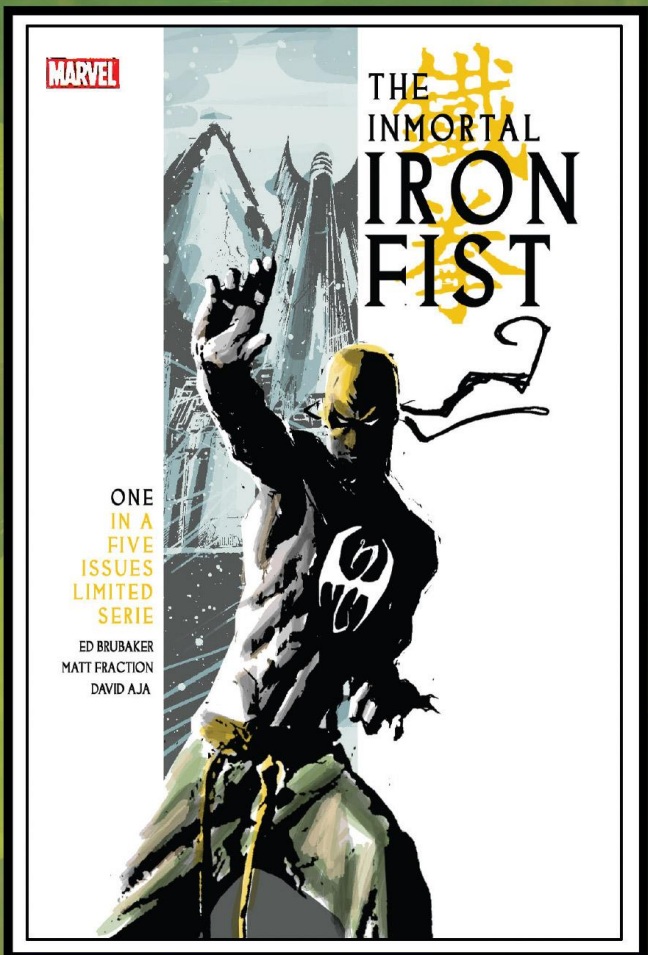


The Chinese characters [in the logo] mean "iron fist"...that much was obvious, huh? I also redesigned Danny's tattoo. But as you can see, that came after designing the issue #1 cover.

THE IMMORTAL IRON FIST #1

COVER PROCESS

The idea with the cover design was to create a unifying look for the entire mini-series, which later became just the first story arc. I also tried to make the title treatment and logo another essential part of the cover, to play an important part in the design. I veered off into big, white areas mainly because it's not something you tend to see on super hero books, and would call attention to the book on the stands. Also, anybody would be able to see from far away that a new issue had come out.



"Old-fashioned wham-bang action meets thoroughly modern pathos in this comic book featuring new adventures of the 1970s Marvel superhero."

— *Entertainment Weekly*

THE LIVING WEAPON RETURNS!

Orphaned as a child and raised in the lost city of K'un-Lun, Daniel Rand returned to America as the mystical martial artist Iron Fist — but all his kung fu skills can't help him find his place in the modern world. Hunted by the government as Iron Fist and overwhelmed by the multi-billion dollar corporation he inherited as Danny Rand, the young warrior struggles not only to save himself, but to find himself — a dual quest made all the more dangerous after Danny learns that the centuries-spanning legacy of the Iron Fist holds more secrets than he ever dreamed possible. Unlock them all in this hard-hitting martial arts action-adventure fantasy by Ed Brubaker, Matt Fraction and David Aja — guest-starring Daredevil, Luke Cage, Misty Knight and Colleen Wing!

Collecting *Immortal Iron Fist* #1-6 and material from *Civil War: Choosing Sides* #1.



T+

MARVEL